Newmarket
WEEKLY NEWS

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Family's tribute to 'darling boy'

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

THE heartbroken family of a young man who died after being involved in a car crash have paid tribute to their "darling boy".

Thomas Carr, 23, from Dalham, died with his family beside him at West Suffolk Hospital after suffering multiple injuries in the collision.

The tragic accident happened on the evening of Sunday, December 13, when Mr Carr's blue Ford Ranger pick-up truck came off the road and crashed into a tree.

Emergency services and fire crews rushed to the incident in Front Street, Ousden, and Mr Carr was cut free from the wreckage by firefighters.

But he died two days later after being in a critical condition.

In a statement, Mr Carr's family said they were "immensely proud" of him.

They said: "Tom was only 23-years-old but had the enthusiasm and drive of someone much older, yet still remained able to be laid back and relaxed.

"He lived life to the full, always believing the cup to be half full not half empty.

"He was never willing to let an adventure go by without him being part of it.

"He had wonderful friends who he loved dearly.

"They have made us realise just how well thought of and loved he was throughout the area.

"We thank you for this, and all the cards and letters from people who knew him."

The family added: "We have been told tales of Tom's friendship, helpfulness, encouragement, support as well as practical jokes.

"He truly will be missed by all who knew him.

"He seemed to touch so many peoples' lives making them a richer place for him having been there.

"While we mourn the loss of our darling boy, we are immensely proud of the man he became – bringing smiles since October 6, 1986."

An inquest into Mr Carr's death has been opened and adjourned at the coroner's office in Bury St Edmunds.

An investigation into the collision is ongoing.

Anyone who witnessed the incident or who has any information should contact Pc Daniel Ormes at the Bury St Edmunds serious collision investigation team on (01473) 613500.

Loving tribute: the heartbroken family of Thomas Carr, who died after a car crash, have said he will be truly missed by all who knew him. CP

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Snowdrops are in sight

THE snowdrop season at the National Trust's Anglesey Abbey is about to begin – heralding the start of spring.

Visitors to the estate can admire more than 200 varieties when the annual show of the beautiful white blooms officially starts on Monday, January 18, running until Sunday, February 21, every day of the week from 10.30am to 4.30pm.

Weekday tours are available at 2pm, when you get the chance to grill the gardeners about the amazing collection, and glean any tips for your own gardens.

Booking is advisable for the tours by calling (01223) 810080 to be sure of a place.

Redwoods restaurant will be open throughout and if you're tempted to start a snowdrop collection at home, the plant centre stocks many varieties.

Festival in white: snowdrops galore at Anglesey Abbey.

Charity concert in Liam's memory

A MAJOR concert held in memory of inspirational teenager Liam Fairhurst has raised almost £900 for charity.

More than 100 revellers attended East Cambridgeshire District Council's chairman's charity concert in November.

Organised by the chairman himself, Cllr Peter Cresswell, the evening featured performances from musicians, dancers, actors and poets from across the region.

As a result, £875 has been raised and is being donated to children's cancer charity CLIC Sargent – the charity Soham cancer fundraiser Liam worked so tirelessly for.

Cllr Cresswell described the concert as a "great success".

He added: "I am delighted with the amount raised, which is for such a worthy cause.

"I would like to thank all those who participated on the day and who came along to support the event.

"I am particularly grateful to Dan Schumann from the district council for helping me to organise and plan the concert and to Mark Peters who compered the evening so well."

Fourteen-year-old Liam's death, back in June, saddened the whole nation, with even the Prime Minister paying tribute to him.

During his four-year battle with cancer, the courageous teen raised more than £320,000 for CLIC Sargent to help other youngsters battling the illness.

The concert was held at The Maltings, Ely, and included performances from Ely Sinfonia, Viva Youth Theatre, Wicken Band and The Octagon Studios.

Recycle all that festive waste and packaging

NEWMARKET residents are being urged to recycle as much of their waste over the New Year period as possible.

Suffolk County Council is advising people on what to do with their recyclable and reusable waste.

Old furniture and electrical items can be dealt with by visiting the Community Recycling Network *www.crn.org.uk* or Furniture Re-use Network *www.frn.org.uk*

Anything with batteries, a plug or charger can be recycled at one of the 18 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) in Suffolk.

All centres are open from 8am-4pm during the festive period, except for New Year's Day.

To find out where your nearest HWRC is, visit *www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk* and click on 'local services'.

As well as Christmas recycling, residents can also take a wide range of materials and bulkier items, such as furniture and garden waste, including Christmas trees, for recycling or re-using.

People should check with their local district or borough council to find the best way to recycle them.

Cllr Lisa Chambers, Suffolk County Council's portfolio holder for waste, said: "There is a need for us all to do more to reduce, re-use and recycle our own waste, as we are not only running out of space in landfill sites, but we also accept this is not an environmentally friendly way of dealing with our waste.

"The festive period can create a huge amount of waste, such as wrapping paper, boxes and glass bottles.

"It is easy to recycle these throughout Suffolk, not only at your local HWRC, but also at bring sites and recycling banks."

For more information, visit *www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk*

Early call to get fit in 2010

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

FOREST Heath residents have no excuse not to get fit in 2010, thanks to Anglia Community Leisure.

The doors will be opening earlier next year at Mildenhall and Brandon Leisure Centres to enable people to get in their exercise before they start work.

From Saturday, the Dome in Mildenhall will open from 7am on Mondays to Fridays and from 8.45am at weekends.

At Brandon, the leisure centre will open from 8am Monday to Friday and from 9am at weekends.

The Dome will also be kicking off a new adults' five-a-side football league for over 16s starting in February and, if popular, it is hoped that a junior league and a veterans' league will follow.

Brand new classes will include free taster session ballroom dancing classes on Wednesday, January 6 and 13, jointly funded by Forest Heath District Council.

For those wanting their exercise a bit more fast paced, there will be new body pump classes on Tuesdays with a free master class session to try on January 5.

For slightly younger customers there will be a new junior spinning class at Brandon on Tuesdays from January 12 and at Mildenhall on Wednesdays from January 13.

At Newmarket Leisure Centre, there will be more exercise classes available from January as the new Studio 2 opens for the first time.

There will be extra yoga and body pump classes and brand new otago and aerotone exercise programmes.

Also at Newmarket there will be a new six-week adult squash coaching course for players of all abilities starting on Monday, January 11.

Mildenhall Swimming Pool will continue with its existing programme but in January it will be offering free swimming lessons for adults over the age of 60 on Wednesdays.

Tony Bass, chief executive at ACL, says: "Now is the time to start planning your new year's resolutions and get signed up for fitness activities ready for January.

"We have prepared a whole new programme with a wide variety of courses to cater for all tastes and abilities and we want 2010 to be the year that everyone decides to get active!"

Be on guard for 'lethal' bottles

SUFFOLK Trading Standards has stopped a consignment of potentially lethal electric hot water bottles from entering the UK.

But they are concerned that more may be in circulation and residents are being urged to be on their guard.

Reg Ruffles, Suffolk's assistant county trading standards officer, said: "The fact that the team have stopped these from entering the country is a great result but our concern is that similar products are known to be on sale via internet auction sites.

"People may use these items thinking they are safe but they may receive an electric shock if the product leaks.

"Our tests on the water bottles stopped at the Port of Felixstowe show that the product does not meet safety requirements, as electrodes are used to directly heat the water."

If you have bought an electric hot water bottle please contact Suffolk Trading Standards on (01473) 264859.

Vandals target site

A BUILDING site has been targeted by vandals.

The incident happened on the B1085, Red Lodge, between 8am and 9am on Monday.

Offenders broke into three houses under construction on the site by smashing the glass in the doors.

Nothing has been stolen from inside the properties.

Anyone with any information should call PC Lesley Brown at Mildenhall Police on (01284) 774100 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Chance to raise issues

A NEIGHBOURHOOD panel meeting is being held for residents of Soham and surrounding villages on Wednesday, January 6.

The meetings, which take place every three months, give residents a chance to raise issues and concerns with police and partner agencies.

Residents will also hear how police have been working towards priorities set at the previous meeting.

The meeting starts at 7pm in the village college.

Star turn: Donna Cooper meets TV and radio presenter Vernon Kay. CP

Glitzy meeting for consultant

A DIET consultant from Newmarket celebrated Slimming World's 40th anniversary in style by cuddling up to top television and radio presenter Vernon Kay.

Donna Cooper, who runs weekly groups at Scaltback Middle School every Wednesday, met Vernon at the company's glitzy awards ceremony, which celebrates the achievements of the country's most successful dieters.

The Radio One DJ, who also presents ITV1 shows *Family Fortunes* and *Beat the Star*, joined Slimming World's founder and chairman Margaret Miles-Bramwell to host the event in Birmingham.

He said: "I've met a lot of inspirational people during my career, and Donna and Margaret are both just that – inspirational.

"It's amazing to think that back in 1969 Margaret had a dream to help people lose weight and now, more than 40 years later, that dream is a reality with thousands of Slimming World consultants like Donna helping people to slim and achieve their own dreams every week."

Donna said: "Meeting Vernon was a wonderful way to end what's been a fabulous Ruby anniversary year.

"At my Slimming World group we've had a great time celebrating throughout 2009 and we're going to keep that buzz and excitement going right through 2010 so we can help even more people to lose weight and improve their health."

For more information or to join, call Donna on (01638) 715814.

Building plans for primary school

ALL Saints Primary School in Newmarket looks set for a revamp.

The school has applied for planning permission to remove an existing pre-school building and build a new one in the play area.

Forest Heath District Council must also decide whether they can get rid of a disused swimming pool and build a new hard surface play area in its place.

A decision should be made within the next eight weeks.

To view the plans, visit *www.forest-heath.gov.uk*

Homes scheme for garage site

SIX new homes could be on their way to Barton Mills.

Plans for six two-storey dwellings to be built on land between 24 and 26, Church Lane Close, have been submitted to Forest Heath District Council.

The proposals involve demolishing the existing garages on the land.

For more information about the plans, visit *www.forest-heath.gov.uk*

Axe hangs over the holly tree

A HOLLY tree in Exning could be felled – if planners agree.

Proposals to fell a tree in Beechwood Close have been submitted to Forest Heath District Council.

A decision should be made within the next eight weeks.

To comment on the plans, visit *www.forest-heath.gov.uk*

Cat aid: Christine Beard of Cataholics, front, with Swayne and Partners Veterinary Surgery staff, from left, Emma Sturch, Alison Webb, Jayne Dennison and Jan Garnett.

Picture: Keith Jones 617571

Veterinary staff help cat rescue volunteers

STAFF at a veterinary practice raised more than £150 for a cat rescue group.

The cash was raised from a Christmas draw at Swayne and Partners in Fordham Road, Newmarket.

It will go to Cataholics, a group started more than eight years ago by local businesswoman Christine Beard and other cat lovers.

The money will go towards vet bills for the cats and replacing roofing felt on one of the pens where the rescued cats live.

A stray found wandering near the Snooker Centre in All Saints Road helped to launch the prize draw. But the cat, called Paddy, has since been reunited with his owners in Granby Street.

Mrs Beard said: "I'm grateful for the support from the vets."

The draw prizes of cuddly toys were won by Mrs Quinn, from Exning, Mrs Scourse, from Newmarket and K Jones, from Fordham.

Blaze leap woman out of hospital

A WOMAN who was forced to leap to safety from her burning flat earlier this month has been released from hospital.

The woman, who is believed to be in her 30s, was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital after the blaze in her first-floor flat in George Lambton Avenue, Newmarket.

But police have confirmed she has now been released.

The woman was treated for smoke inhalation and back injuries after jumping from the window to escape the flames.

A man, also believed to be in his 30s, was in the flat at the time and was rescued by firefighters.

He is still at Addenbrooke's Hospital in a critical condition.

A Suffolk police spokesman said: "The man is still being treated and is in a critical condition.

"However, his injuries are not life-threatening."

The devastating fire was started deliberately in the hallway and is being investigated as "arson endangering life".

The flat was badly damaged and four people were treated for smoke inhalation at the scene.

Anyone with any information should call Suffolk police on (01284) 774100.

Hall project is on despite cuts

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

WORK on a long-awaited new village hall will start in the New Year – despite a council grant cut leaving the project with a £60,000 funding shortfall.

Villagers at Moulton thought they had got enough cash for their new hall, due to cost around £480,000 – until Forest Heath District Council told them they would not be getting a grant for a third of the amount as expected.

Instead the council has awarded a grant of £100,000 towards the scheme leaving the village with a continued search for the remaining £60,000.

Bill Rampling, chairman of the parish council, said there was "extreme disappointment" at the district council's decision.

He said: "We felt the district council hasn't honoured an obligation. They should have found the money from somewhere. They have decided their corporate policies are more important than looking after the community. They are prepared to spend frivolously on consultants for all sorts of things.

"We feel we have been let down at the last minute. This was a real blow and very demoralising for people who had got their hopes up."

But he said the scheme to replace the old village hall would still go ahead with work due to start on Monday.

"The parish council is backing the project 100 per cent. We are taking out a loan and we are due to get £100,000 in section 106 (planning gain) money from a nearby development, but the money won't come through for about a year."

He said more fund-raising would be carried out locally and some aspects of the scheme might have to be cut back.

The old hall is a former agricultural building built about 60 years ago.

The village has been fund-raising for the new hall for about 10 years.

Cllr Stephen Edwards, chairman of the council's corporate services committee, said: "We would love to be able to do more to help our communities, but due to financial circumstances beyond our control, we are under severe economic pressure and unable to help any more at the current time."

Complete the True Grit challenge and help hospices

TWO hospices want energetic volunteers to make a new year resolution to tackle a 5km off-road run to help raise vital funds.

The True Grit challenge will benefit Cambridge's Arthur Rank Hospice and St Nicholas Hospice Care in Bury St Edmunds.

The event will take place on Sunday, January 10, at Wild Tracks in Kennett, and is sponsored by Deloitte's Cambridge branch.

There will be trophies for the fastest finishers, but everyone is welcome to register.

Lucy Day, fundraiser at Arthur Rank, said runners would be making a difference to the lives of people in their community living with life-limiting illnesses.

Entry costs £12 and runners should try to raise at least £100 in sponsorship.

To register call (01223) 723115, (01284) 747624 or visit *www.arhc.org.uk*

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Cash prize: from left, Katherine Smith, sustainability development officer at Forest Heath District Council, Cllr Tony Simmons, member champion for the environment, Wanda Betts, prizewinner, and David Burnip, chief executive of Forest Heath District Council. CP

Survey leads to Wanda-ful prize

BRANDON resident Wanda Betts is the lucky winner of Forest Heath District Council's free prize draw.

The draw was for those completing energy efficiency surveys as part of a recent statutory survey across the eastern region.

Mrs Betts has scooped £300 cash from representatives of CAN – East and the council.

She said: "This is a real bonus for me and my family at the start of the New Year, and all for just completing a form, we can't believe it!'

Cllr Tony Simmons, member champion for the environment, said: "This is the first time that anyone from this district has won one of these prizes.

"We thank everyone for their time and effort in completing these surveys. You can be sure they will be used fully and will provide the details we need to make our statutory returns to the Department of Energy and Climate Change."

The survey was carried out to establish an improvement in housing over the last 12 months and focuses on households that may be vulnerable.

Van driver hurt after refuse lorry collision

A VAN driver was taken to hospital following a collision with a refuse lorry.
The 56-year-old motorist had to be freed from his vehicle after the crash on Wednesday morning last week.
Chaos hit the A14 after the accident around 5.30am at the westbound junction with the A142, Exning.
Emergency services, the fire service and police were called to the smash.
Fire crews from Newmarket cut the motorist free from the van and he was taken to West Suffolk Hospital by land ambulance.
He is said to have suffered minor injuries.
The driver of the refuse lorry was uninjured.

Thieves damage car

A CAR was broken into in Newmarket over the festive period.
Offenders broke into the red Ford Fiesta by smashing a window.
Nothing was stolen from inside but further damage was done.
The incident happened in Tulyar Walk some time between 10am on December 26 and 8am the following day.
Anyone with any information should call the Crime Investigation Bureau on (01473) 613500 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Charity bags set alight

BAGS of clothing left outside a charity shop were set alight by arsonists.
The fire happened in Wellington Street, Newmarket, on Monday.
The bags were set alight some time between 3.15am and 3.20am.
Anyone with any information should call PC Dan Hudson at Newmarket Police on (01284) 774100 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

Ambulance crews clean up their act

BY JACK GROVE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

AMBULANCE staff across the eastern region have cleaned up their act after a health watchdog criticised their "dirty" vehicles.

The East of England Ambulance Service, which operates paramedic services in the region, came under fire in October after the Care Quality Commission (CQC) said poor levels of cleanliness could put patients at risk of infection.

The watchdog said vehicles at seven of the ambulance service's 100 stations visited in unannounced checks were "dirty" and seats "grimy".

It said the service had "breached the regulation to protect patients, workers and others from the risks of acquiring a healthcare-associated infection".

But recent spot checks revealed the service had sorted its cleanliness problems after ordering a review of its infection prevention measures.

Dr Scott Turner, one of the service's joint medical directors, said: "We took the initial inspection report extremely seriously as the safety of our patients and staff is an absolute priority to us.

"We were already doing a lot of work in relation to infection prevention and control (IPC) but the CQC highlighted where more had to be done.

"The return visit made by the CQC last month has reflected our ability to address these requirements and recommendations in the fight against the spread of infection.

"I must commend our staff in their work to ensure this was being implemented."

He added: "The support and enthusiasm right across the trust has meant we have been able to make such a dramatic turn- around."

Actions taken by the trust included implementation of tougher infection control measures, the inclusion of clinical staff to help measure infection prevention, the purchase of new cleaning materials and detergent wipes and greater promotion of infection control among staff.

Dr Turner added: "Ensuring consistent high standards of cleanliness is a challenge – but we will continue driving up our infection control standards to keep IPC high on the agenda so that it's part of every day practice for staff."

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We pride ourselves on producing publications for the community and about the community and aim to provide the very best service for readers and advertisers alike.
At the same time, we are constantly looking to improve our title and are always happy to hear from you with suggestions and comments.
If you have any feedback for us then please contact the relevant person or people listed below.

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WEEKLY NEWS LETTERS

Send your letters to: The Editor, Newmarket Weekly News, 15 High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8XL or by email to editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

I cannot force through plan

Sir, The accusation in an advertisement by the Save Historic Newmarket group that I am "forcing through" a plan to develop Hatchfield Farm was undignified, unpleasant and untrue (*Weekly News*, December 17).
Personal attacks online or on the pages of our newspapers will do nothing for the people of Newmarket.
Newmarket needs to grow – the question is by how much and by when? Without new houses, how will toddlers in town today be able to buy a home in Newmarket when they grow up?
What about our hard working small businesses and retailers – do they also want to turn away extra customers?
The government demands we plan for 6,400 new houses in the district by the year 2031.
The council has proposed 1,200 of those houses should be in the north east of Newmarket. This is less than a town the size of Newmarket should have, but if this is still too many, where else in the district can we put them?
Should other villages and towns in the district become dormitories for Newmarket? Which of them can support this amount of housing, on top of their current allocations?
I am just one vote amongst 27 in the council and am not a member of the planning committee that will decide the Hatchfield Farm planning application.
A few weeks ago the working group I chair could not be persuaded to change the way we hold some of our meetings.
To suggest I can force a plan through is deliberately misleading, underestimates my colleagues and is an insult to their independence on planning matters.
I am looking forward to two important events in the new year. The Inspector will publish his views on the housing targets for Newmarket, and we will have a General Election and the Conservative government that this country has been crying out for.
My New Year's wish is that both will allow us to discuss the housing Newmarket needs, not what government targets say we must fit in.
Until then I will not risk losing control of planning in Newmarket by pretending those targets do not exist or can be ignored.

Cllr Robin Millar
All Saints Ward (Newmarket)

MEMORIES

THIS week's photograph, from our archives, shows a group of children collecting cash.
But who are they, where was the collection being made and what year was it likely to be? Could you help with details about this photograph?
We welcome your letters or emails on these recollections.
Send your recollections to: Memories, *Newmarket Weekly News*, 15 High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8XL, or email *editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk* by Tuesday morning.

595156

Last week's *Memories* photograph, from our archives, showed our festive visitor at Newmarket fire station. Father Christmas was busy dishing out gifts to youngsters during December, 1966.

595163

Free parking is cost effective

Sir, I feel I must comment on the parking charges increases for Newmarket passed by the Forest Heath District Council Conservative majority (*Weekly News*, December 24).
The extra £55,831 'profit', which the increases will allegedly bring is, of course, a theoretical forecast based on assumptions of future car park usage.
The laws of supply and demand would suggest that with a fixed supply of car park spaces the increases in charges will reduce demand for car park usage and thus reduce – not increase – income ; a 20 per cent reduction in use would negate the increases.
Indeed, as fines, most associated with misunderstanding of the need for a ticket for the free half hour, have consistently accounted for 20 per cent of income, the abolition of the free half hour is likely to produce a deficit.
The financial and economic analyses in my letter of November 26 are based on facts, that is FHDC's income and expenditure accounts for the years 2004 to date, which show that free parking is as cost effective as charging, due in large part to the £100,000 annual cost of car park management, since January by a firm called TPC.
The glaring effect of increasing, or indeed having, car park charges, which the FHDC Conservative majority blithely ignore is that any reduction in visitors to the town will result in reduced business for shops which could bring empty premises which do not pay business rates.
Colin Buchanan Consultants, who are being paid £30,000-odd by FHDC, have recently started their consultation re a long term parking strategy.
It seems, however, that any suggestions or recommendations they might make re parking charges will be ignored.
Clearly FHDC's Tories are unwilling to admit to any mistakes or even concede they might not have been right and the residents of the town and district will suffer for councillors' pride and arrogance.
Happy New Year to one and all.

Cllr Andrew Appleby
Fordham Road
Newmarket

LETTERS POLICY

Letters should arrive by noon on the Monday before publication. Full name and address must be supplied and details will be withheld only in exceptional circumstances. Letters should be no longer than 250 words and may be edited.

Thieves break into youth club

A PLAYSTATION and stereo have been stolen from a youth club in Newmarket.

Thieves broke into the centre on Wellington Street by smashing a window and once inside grabbed the goods.

The incident happened overnight on Tuesday, December 22.

Anyone with any information should call Sgt Mark Shipton at the Newmarket Safer Neighbourhood Team on (01284) 774100.

Office burglars leave empty-handed

AN office in Newmarket was broken into.

Thieves forced their way into the property in The Avenue by damaging a window.

The incident happened overnight on Tuesday, December 22, but nothing was stolen. Anyone who saw anything suspicious should call PC Nik Chapman at Newmarket Police on (01284) 774100.

Teenager ignored notice to leave

A TEENAGER from Newmarket was given a fixed penalty notice for failing to comply with a section 27 notice.

The 19-year-old was directed to leave the town centre in the early hours of Christmas Eve but failed to do so.

Slippery paths anger residents

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

COUNCIL chiefs are being blasted for failing to grit pedestrianised areas across Suffolk during icy weather.

Outrage has hit the streets of Newmarket and surrounding villages after Suffolk County Council gritted the region's roads but did not do the same on footpaths and shopping areas.

People were left slipping and sliding across the town centre as thick ice built up on surfaces.

High Street, Exning Road and Old Station Road, to name just a few, were all left without grit, leaving them in "lethal" conditions, according to residents and shoppers.

Malcolm Wright, 67, of Windsor Road, contacted the *Weekly News* about the issue.

He said: "The roads were all gritted, which obviously makes it safe for motorists.

"But conditions for pedestrians were definitely ignored.

"It took me almost an hour to walk into town because the footpaths were so icy and the amount of people slipping was unbelievable.

"The lack of grit made them lethal and there must have been casualties as a result of this."

Patricia Cornwall, of New Cheveley Road, said: "Every walkway and footpath across the town was dangerous.

"The ice was thick and black in patches, making it difficult for people to walk around.

"I feel sorry for the elderly people who maybe wanted to get into town to do some Christmas shopping as it really was not safe for them to do so.

"The council should have gritted the footpaths as much as the roads."

Footpaths in Burwell, Exning, Snailwell and the majority of villages were also left icy.

A resident of The Causeway, Burwell, said: "Every surface was like a mirror.

"The council failed to grit most of the village's footpaths and as a result the place was like an ice rink.

"I think it is a disgrace and as ever, the snow really caught us out again due to the lack of preparations."

A Suffolk County Council spokeswoman said: "Suffolk County Council are continuing to work with the district and borough councils in keeping Suffolk moving during these extreme weather conditions.

"Gritters have been working around the clock to keep main routes and priority roads running.

"We have over the past few days been able to get out to footways and pathways in the main shopping areas."

New Year warning on 'legal highs'

REVELLERS celebrating the New Year festivities are being warned about the dangers of taking 'legal highs'.

The Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Team is alerting people about the risks in dabbling with these substances, which although called 'legal highs', have not been endorsed by the government or the NHS.

Simon Aalders, team manager, said: "The key message for anyone considering using these chemicals is, do not drink alcohol.

"It is important to remember that these chemicals have not been tested on anything, so by taking them, you are taking an experimental substance.

"No one really knows how this stuff will affect people, either in the short or long term.

"We also want to warn people that everyone reacts differently to these chemicals and just because you took the same substance last week, it doesn't mean you will get the same effect this week, or that if your mate took it, you will have the same reaction as them.

"Another point to remember is that just because the packaging looks good, the name sounds cool or the person you are buying it from seems to be offering you some advice, does not make these chemicals safe."

For more information, visit *www.suffolkdaat.org.uk*

Tenant joins society's board

A HOUSING association tenant has become a member of the board.

Paula Bone, who lives at St Mary's Close, Mildenhall, has joined the board of Suffolk Housing Society.

Mrs Bone has been a tenant of SHS for the past five years.

She is secretary of her housing scheme's social club and has been a member of the society's residents' group, Tenants' Voice, since it was set up a year ago.

She has already attended some meetings of the board.

She said: "I have really enjoyed the board meetings so far as they give me the chance to give direct feedback to the society from the tenant's point of view.

"Hopefully this will complement the skills which other members bring to the table, such as a background in finance or the construction industry."

She is one of two new board members of SHS which has homes for rent in Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Essex and Norfolk.

The other new member is Jolyon Larkman, who had a career in commercial banking.

On the board: housing society tenant Paula Bone. CP

He serves alongside Steve Clarke, the society's chief executive, on the board of Foundation East, a non-profit organisation which lends money to new businesses or companies which cannot get a bank loan.

Residents thanked for shoebox gifts

NEWMARKET residents have helped to give deprived children a happier Christmas this year.

Thanks to the kindness of people in the town and across Suffolk, more than 17,800 shoeboxes full of presents have been sent out via the Operation Christmas Child scheme.

The shoeboxes full of presents have been donated by members of the public, schools, companies, churches and organisations from communities across the town.

Gordon McCann, spokesman for the project, said: "On behalf of Operation Christmas Child and all our volunteers, I just want to send a huge thank you to every single person who donated a shoebox this year.

"This has been a hard year for many people in Suffolk, and we are just knocked out by the fact so many of them have put together a shoebox. It has such a positive effect on the child that receives it and I want everyone here to know that their gifts make a real difference."

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Family Announcements

01638 662581

Deaths

GARRETT. Violet (Vi) of Sawston, Cambridge, peacefully in Hinton Grange, on Thursday, December 17th, 2009, aged 98 years. A much loved mum of Valerie, Peter and the late David, a cherished mother-in-law of Marion, and will be sadly missed by all the family. Funeral service at Cambridge City Crematorium, on Monday, January 4th, 2010, at 1.00pm, East Chapel. Family flowers only but if desired donations made payable for Friends of Sawston Medical Practise to R Skeates Funeral Directors, 45 Moorfield Road, Duxford, Cambridge. Tel: 01223 833463.

HANDLEY. Ellen (Dyz) passed peacefully to rest at Woodlands Care Home on Sunday, December 20th, 2009, aged 91 years. Beloved wife of the late Peter, dear mum to Elizabeth, much loved grandma to Kevin and Gemma, will be sadly missed by all her family. Funeral service in the West Chapel, Cambridge City Crematorium, on Wednesday, January 6th, at 2.15pm. Dyz requested bright colours please. Family flowers only, donations for Cancer Research UK would be appreciated and sent c/o Harry Williams and Sons, 83 Victoria Road, Cambridge.

PIKE. Brian, of Courtland Avenue, Cambridge passed away peacefully in Arthur Rank Hospice, Cambridge on Saturday, December 19th, 2009, aged 77 years. Funeral service will take place in Cambridge City Crematorium, in the East Chapel, on Wednesday, December 30th, at 11.30am. Family flowers only, donations in memory can be made payable to Arthur Rank Hospice Charities and sent c/o Cambridge Funeral Services Ltd, 617 Newmarket Road, Cambridge. CB5 8PA. Tel: 01223 415255.

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01638 662581

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Police hold surgeries

SAFER Neighbourhood Teams are holding street briefings and consultation events across Suffolk.

In Newmarket, the next police surgery event is being held at the Guineas Shopping Centre on Tuesday, January 5, from 10am-noon and at the Rous Memorial Court on Wednesday, January 6, from 10am-11am.

Residents and representatives from local businesses are invited to attend to meet their SNT, have an informal chat and discuss their needs, concerns and expectations.

To find out more about your Safer Neighbourhood Team, visit *www.onesuffolk.co.uk*

Date to raise your issues

A NEIGHBOURHOOD panel meeting is being held for residents of Burwell and surrounding areas on Tuesday, January 5.

It will take place at 7pm at Burwell Village Hall.

The meetings, which take place every three months, give residents a chance to raise issues and concerns with police and partner agencies.

Residents will also hear how police have been working towards priorities set at the previous meeting.

New priorities for the coming three months will then be chosen.

Outbuildings set to go

OUTBUILDINGS in Burwell could be demolished to make way for a new property.

Mr T Whitehead, of Primrose Lane, Waterbeach, has submitted plans to East Cambridgeshire District Council.

The proposals suggest knocking down outbuildings in Toyse Lane, Burwell, to make way for a new one-bedroom dwelling.

A decision on the scheme is expected within the next eight weeks.

To have your say, visit *www.eastcambs.gov.uk*

Business use plan for barn

A BARN in Dullingham could soon be home to a business.

Mr S. Taylor wants to change the use of an agricultural barn in Station Road to business use.

Plans have been submitted to East Cambridgeshire District Council and a decision is expected within the next eight weeks.

To view the proposals, visit *www.eastcambs.gov.uk*

New commander: Inspector Neil Ireland. CP

Former town sergeant is back to take command

A NEW police commander will take up his appointment next month.

Inspector Neil Ireland, who is taking command at Newmarket, spent 20 years with the Hampshire force before transferring to Suffolk.

He previously served at Newmarket and was most recently staff officer to the deputy and assistant chief constables at Suffolk police headquarters.

He takes over from Insp Simon Clifton who is leaving after just over a year to become area support inspector.

Insp Ireland, 46, whose wife is also a police officer, lives near Bury St Edmunds. He is a rugby and music fan.

He said: "I am delighted to be taking up the post of Neighbourhood Inspector at Newmarket. I was based in the town as a sergeant and I am therefore aware what a friendly, vibrant, diverse and unique town Newmarket is.

"I am looking forward to working with officers and staff as well as partners in tackling the issues which affect the quality of life for residents and visitors in Newmarket.

"I will be doing all I can to ensure that Newmarket is a safe place to live, work or visit."

Merging police 'not best option'

CHIEF constable Julie Spence has hit out at possible plans to create a four-county superforce involving Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Norfolk and Lincolnshire.

Cambridgeshire's top police officer said she was "unconvinced" about the benefits of the move after it was reported that plans to merge the four forces were being "actively pursued".

The plans could lead to the creation of a force the size of Greater Manchester Police, and could save tens of millions of pounds to boost frontline policing.

Mrs Spence said: "Cambridgeshire is exploring a variety of options as to what the future might look like.

"We already collaborate within the region on a variety of issues and our flexible approach allows us to collaborate with Norfolk and Suffolk on some issues, Herts and Beds on others and the wider region on issues such as serious and organised crime.

"Similarly we are involved with all the other public services in Cambridgeshire, looking at how we can better deliver public services to the people living within our county.

"Indeed, we feel these are options that need to be fully explored before going to what appears to be a large geographic police service.

"At the moment I am unconvinced that this is the best option to deliver the responsive frontline services and leadership required in a complex county such as Cambridgeshire.

"I do not believe the public would accept the major upheavals and service disruption that mergers could cause until every other stone has been turned."

A police authority spokeswoman added: "We are currently unconvinced of the benefits to local people of a full-scale merger on the basis of the same concerns we identified when the prospect first came about three years ago."

Financial sessions for young people are on the table

WOULD you like a Barclays Money Skills session for a group of young people?

The *Weekly News* has been working with Barclays offering financial advice on a range of topics. If you know a local school or community group that would benefit from a money management session simply complete the online application form at *www.cambridge-news.co.uk*

Three winners will be selected to each receive a Barclays Money Skills session for their group which will be delivered by Barclays volunteers.

Barclays Money Skills helps people to develop their confidence and ability to manage money which includes budgeting, making informed financial choices and knowing where to get help.

In addition to donations to charities, Barclays employees are encouraged to volunteer with local community groups to lend first hand impartial advice on the importance of understanding and managing money.

Volunteers use a range of fun and interactive activities to help young people to become more financially capable.

Help at hand: Paula Morrice at Barclays in Benet St, Cambridge. Picture: Keith Heppell 617714

More walks in scheme

MORE people have the chance to walk into a healthy New Year as the free Health Walk scheme is being extended into more villages around Forest Heath.

The new walks programme for January to March is now available and includes new walks in Exning, Ashley, Cheveley and Burwell, as well as the regular favourites in Newmarket and Mildenhall.

Leisa Bright, Health Walks co-ordinator, said everyone is welcome to join in and added: "The Health Walks have already built up a popular following and demand has been increasing in nearby villages so that local residents can join in without having to hop in their cars."

The new programme is available on the ACL website at *www.ang com leisure.com* or people can pick up a copy from leisure centres.

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Thieves plunder crashed car

A STEREO was stripped from a car left at the roadside after a crash.

The Pioneer CD player together with the speakers was taken from a grey Volvo F40 beside the A1065 road at Lakenheath.

Some cash left in the car was also taken after windows were broken. The total value of the stolen items is estimated at just over £500.

Anyone with information about the incident, which happened between midday on Saturday, December 19 and midday the following day, should call Suffolk police Crime Investigation Bureau (CIB) on (01473) 613500 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Kitchen scheme for day centre

STAFF at a village day centre could soon be cooking in new surroundings.

Burwell Parish Council has applied for planning permission to build a single storey kitchen extension at the Burwell and District Day Centre on Ash Grove. The proposals have been submitted to East Cambridgeshire District Council. Visit *www.eastcambs.gov.uk*

County praised for innovative working

BY JORDAN DAY

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

WORKING together has proved to be a recipe for success in Suffolk.

The county is the only one in the UK to be awarded three green flags as part of a thorough assessment by the Audit Commission for working collaboratively and innovatively.

Jeremy Pembroke, leader of Suffolk County Council, said: "This is fantastic news for the people of Suffolk.

"It shows just how the public sector and the voluntary sector working together can produce great achievements.

"Suffolk is a well performing county with a great track record of efficiency savings.

"I am delighted that the Audit Commission has recognised our innovation and the positive difference it makes for our local communities.

"Working with borough and district councils, health bodies and police has given us all great insight into what is needed within our communities.

"It also enables us to learn from one another and think creatively about how we can make changes for the better."

The three flags were awarded for a wide of range of reasons, including developing green technologies in wind and wave renewable energy, coastal protection and issues such as crime and anti-social behaviour.

However, two red flags were also given meaning work is needed in addressing the lack of high value jobs in rural areas, as well as learning and skills outcomes in the county.

Fantastic news: Jeremy Pembroke, leader of Suffolk County Council.

These have been set as county council targets.

Chief Constable Simon Ash, of Suffolk Police, said: "Suffolk is one of the safest counties in the country with low levels of crime and the perception of crime and anti-social behaviour is also low in the county.

"We work closely with partners to ensure that our performance in keeping it safe remains consistently strong and that local people continue to receive an efficient service, which meets their needs.

"The work we have undertaken with our partners is already proving to be successful, as highlighted by the report.

"In the year ahead, we will be focussing our efforts with our partners on tackling anti-social behaviour as local people have consistently told us that this is their priority."

Officer fails in bid for top job

A BID by a top police officer to become a chief constable ended unsuccessfully.

John Feavyour, the Cambridgeshire force's deputy chief constable, was one of three candidates in the running to become chief constable of Leicestershire Constabulary.

But the county's police authority decided not to offer the role to any of the applicants.

The other contenders, Alan Goodwin from Derbyshire and Philip Gormley from West Midlands, are both second-in-command in their respective forces.

The candidates had outlined their visions for policing in Leicestershire to a panel of 35 members of the public, who had no say in the final decision.

Mr Feavyour, who has been chief constable Julie Spence's number two since December 2006, spent the first 15 years of his policing career in Leicestershire.

Last year Mrs Spence was unsuccessful in her bid to become Metropolitan Police Commissioner.

Newmarket Weekly News regional round-up

Help us keep you informed. We want your news. If your village or club is planning an event, let us know. If your organisation recently had an interesting meeting, let us have a report. Write to John Goode at *Newmarket Weekly News*, 15 High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8XL or send an email to *editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk*

Mildenhall

THE Gods of the weather failed to shine on the final Horringer Crafts meeting of 2009, held in the village hall, just outside Ickworth Park, on December 6.

Not until 1pm, nearly half-way through the planned session, did the heavy rain ease off, giving hope to the stallholders who again offered a wide range of goods.

Some, in fact, made few, if any, sales during the day, even to the extra few visitors who braved the damp after lunch. Two of the busiest stallholders were the refreshment lady and the fundraiser helper.

The last-named, in fact, was probably the most successful overall on the occasion for both visitors and stallholders combined to raise well over £70 for the St Nicholas Hospice.

■ While very sad that its chairman Jim Warzbrger had been forced to return to the US for a family funeral, members of Mildenhall and district Probus Club enjoyed their final 'outside lunch' trip to Swaffham on December 9.

Joining them for the special Christmas meal in the George Hotel were their spouses and a regular group of friends, some 60-strong in all.

An excellent array of more than 20 prizes, all generously donated, brought anticipation to most, then pleasure to the winners over coffee, before the return journey.

This was not the last meeting this year. After Monday's session, in the social club, Bernard Ransome organised a relaxing morning there on Monday, December 28, not a day which, being so close to Christmas, is usually utilised.

■ Late night shopping returned to Mildenhall for the first time in some years, on December 10, with a large group of participants of all ages.

The show got on the road at 5pm when children from three local primary schools, with more than 150 others, gathered on the High Street, at St Mary's church, in front of the dark Christmas tree.

Given generously by the Elveden Estate to Mildenhall Parish Council, the tree awaited the arrival of Father Christmas – held up in the snows of St Andrew's Street. With a prayer by the Rev Sue Leathley, and carol singing, the youngsters pressed the plunger and the tree sparkled into life. From then until after 8pm many took advantage of the majority of shops, banks and other businesses which opened their doors.

And in addition to the lights and tree decorations, part of a competition that went on until December 19, there was carol singing, a walking Christmas tree, Zeta Radio's music and a carousel, while St Mary's Primary school's carol service was well attended.

Officers of FHDC and the Community Partnership went on their rounds, with helpful support from the Suffolk Constabulary – officers and PCSOs – in what was a welcome return to a festivity for which plans are already on the stocks for 2010.

John Barker

DON'T MISS NEXT WEEK'S Cambridge News

Monday
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All the weekend action in our 12-page pull-out

Tuesday
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5-minute interview
60-second briefing
Working day
Money file
Movers & Shakers
Business bulletin

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DRIVE
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Saturday
living
real-life stories ● food ● gardening ● travel ● fashion ● health

Village head petitions over paperwork 'mountain'

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

A VILLAGE school head has launched a petition against mounting paperwork faced by teachers.

Kevin Bullock, head of Fordham Primary School, hopes to force politicians to reverse what he described as the "ridiculous bureaucratic and over-prescriptive financial regulations" which primary schools have to deal with.

Mr Bullock, 55, previously took up the issue in 2003 when he met the then Prime Minister Tony Blair.

But Mr Bullock said the situation had got worse since Mr Blair promised to tackle the issue.

"I'm not just speaking for myself, I'm speaking out for all head teachers who can no longer run their schools properly because of the amount of time they are tied to a desk," he said.

"Politicians simply decided to transfer a financial framework compatible to large organisations like Tesco's and dumped it on head teachers.

"The degree of prescription and minute detail is mind-boggling."

He has called the petition REPAIR – Reduce Excessive Paperwork and Irrelevant Regulations in schools.

Mr Bullock, who is also a consultant advising head teachers across East Anglia, said schools that listened less to Government strategies and initiatives performed better than those that did.

More information about the petition is at *www.kbconcepts.co.uk*

Speaking for all heads: Kevin Bullock, head of Fordham Primary School.

Shops praised for halt on underage alcohol sales

SHOPKEEPERS have been praised – for heeding a campaign to curb sales of alcohol to young people under 18.

Since the end of September, the trading standards team in Cambridgeshire has been using under-age volunteers to check if shops around the county will sell them drink.

More than 40 "test purchases" were carried out – and not one shopkeeper was willing to hand over any alcohol.

A department spokesman said: "We prefer to work with businesses to educate them and provide support on preventing sales of alcohol to children rather than taking enforcement action.

"However, we also use volunteers under 18 to test that shops are complying with the law regarding age-restricted products.

"The test purchase operations, carried out throughout the year, are not always just for alcohol but could be for anything with an age limit such as tobacco or knives.

"The shops are often randomly picked for a test purchase, but operations could be intelligence-led, perhaps from reports of under-age sales from the public or information from the police."

Cllr Tony Orgee, county council cabinet member for the economy and environment, said: "This is a very pleasing result and proves that the work being done by trading standards is really making a difference.

"Unfortunately, some shops have failed in the past. In those instances the shops are offered additional training from trading standards and given point-of-sale materials to explain to staff and customers the rules."

Many retailers, including all the larger supermarket chains, now have a Challenge 25 policy, where if someone trying to buy an age-restricted product appears to be under 25 – in the opinion of the shop assistant – they will be challenged to prove that they are over 18.

Anyone who would like to contact trading standards about under-age sales can ring (01954) 284635 or email *cambscap@cambridgeshire.gov.uk*

Contact us at editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

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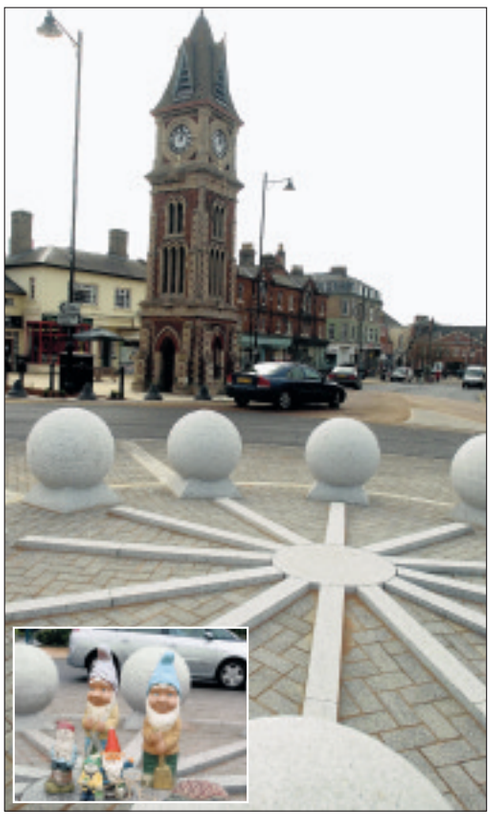
Review of news from the towns and villages throughout 2009

January: a familiar sight around the country as the Woolworths store in Newmarket is closed. 568704

February: Jockey Bear, centre, Newmarket Town Football Club's mascot, with some of his mates. 590238



March: the dozen stone balls near Newmarket's Clocktower led to a petition to 10 Downing Street – then in May a family of garden gnomes, inset, took up residence but were rehoused by police. 544975/551416

Events that continue

JANUARY

THE year started with empty premises where Woolworths had once been in Newmarket's High Street. The shop closed just after Christmas with the collapse of the chain nationally.

Newmarket Conservative Club also closed after more than 100 years due to falling income.

Work started on the controversial £600,000 revamp of the town's busy Clocktower junction – despite a plea by town councillors to delay the work.

But on a positive note, the town's new pool successfully opened after delays and wrangles over the cost – believed to be around £15 million – and the new SOS bus project, to aid revellers suffering from the effects of drink or drugs, got under way.

An ambitious plan to establish a new horse park on the outskirts of Newmarket, linked with the London 2012 Olympics, was announced with the submission of a planning application.

There was joy when parents learned that their campaign to save popular Paddocks Primary School in Newmarket from closure had succeeded.

FEBRUARY

Plans for a £1.55 million revamp of Newmarket's historic Memorial Hall suffered a blow when district councillors refused to give cash support. The town council, which owns the hall, had hoped for up to £1 million from Forest Heath District Council.

Hopes of a boost for Mildenhall by Marshall's Aerospace interests moving there from Cambridge were dealt a blow when Ministry of Defence chiefs said there were "legal, financial and commercial" problems.

District councillors made a step towards mounting a legal challenge over the controversial switch to two-tier schools.

Jockey Bear, Newmarket Town Football Club's new mascot, made his first appearance.

MARCH

A new scheme to care for patients suffering terminal, or serious illnesses, in their own homes was announced by St Nicholas Hospice Care.

Plans for a Majestic Wine warehouse at Newmarket's Clocktower junction ran into opposition from the town council and the Save Historic Newmarket action group.

A woman escaped serious injury when a gas explosion wrecked her bungalow in Laureate Gardens, Newmarket. Neighbours went to her aid.

The growing controversy over the dozen stone balls on the new roundabout at Newmarket's Clocktower junction led to a petition on the 10 Downing Street website and calls for the balls, imported from China at a cost of nearly £1,000 each, to be replaced.

APRIL

Villagers in Moulton started a campaign to save their two post women. There were plans to move them to Newmarket sorting office rather then keeping them based in the village.

New police powers were introduced to ban troublemakers from Newmarket town centre.

Controversy continued to rage about the stone balls on the roundabout and a new row was about to start with the revelation of plans by Lord Derby to build 1,200 new homes on his land at Hatchfield Farm, Newmarket.

Market traders complained about a council clamp-down on parking their vans on Newmarket Market Square.

Sam Burrows, nine, escaped serious injury, when he was in collision with a car outside his home in Mill Hill, Newmarket. His parents praised emergency services and passers-by for coming to his aid.

MAY

The Clocktower roundabout controversy took on a new twist with the mysterious appearance of a "family" of garden gnomes in the middle of it. They were later given a "gnome" by Newmarket police.

Seven people were arrested after violence broke out at the Guineas race meeting.

There was tragedy when estranged couple Christine and Keith McDonald were found dead at what had formerly been their home in New Cheveley Road, Newmarket.

A man was detained under the Mental Health Act after Mary Griffiths, who taught fitness classes at Newmarket leisure centre, died from wounds inflicted at her home in Bury St Edmunds.

A woman aged 66 was revealed as about to become Britain's oldest mum. Elizabeth Adeney, of Lidgate, refused to talk to reporters about her pregnancy.

A row broke out over a council clamp-down on tables and chairs on the pavement as well as advertising A-boards. The move was part of a campaign to "Clean Up" the town.

JUNE

Hotel chain, Oxford Hotels and Inns Management, was fined £30,000 after health inspectors found "filthy" kitchens at Mildenhall's Riverside Hotel.

The company was also ordered to pay £8,000 costs.

Former champion jockey Richard Dunwoody was well into his stride in his bid to match a 200-year-old feat of walking 1,000 miles in 1,000 hours.

He was walking up and down the same stretch of Bury Road, Newmarket, between The Bedford Lodge Hotel and the town's war memorial.

The completed SOS bus was revealed after nearly £75,000 was spent to kit it out as refuge for revellers. Part of it was also fitted out to the same specification as an ambulance to deal with medical emergencies.

The county council elections saw Conservatives retain control in Suffolk with existing councillors Bill Sadler, Lisa Chambers and Colin Noble being joined by Stephen Frost, who took the Mildenhall seat previously held by Roger Pendleton who stood down due to ill health.

Three brothers were cleared of attempted murder at a funeral in Newmarket a year earlier.

A case of swine flu led to the temporary closure of Burwell Village College Primary School.

■ Continued on page 13

April: trouble brews over a clamp-down on traders' vans parked in Newmarket's market square. 107052

May: Newmarket's Clean-Up gets under way, with Mayor Cllr Jane Bailey, right – but there was controversy over A-boards in the town during the campaign. 559558

June: former champion jockey Richard Dunwoody crosses the finishing line – this time following his marathon 1000-mile walk in 1,000 hours in Newmarket. 575153

Review of news from the towns and villages throughout 2009

July: brave charity fundraiser Liam Fairhurst lost his four-year battle against cancer – he is pictured earlier this year with Olivia Newton-John who was visiting Cambridge. 530461

August: residents in Norfolk Avenue, Newmarket, survey the damage after a car crashed into a bungalow. 584250

to shape the district

JULY

There was sadness when brave charity fundraiser Liam Fairhurst died at the age of 14 after a four-year battle with cancer. The Soham youngster helped to raise more than £320,000 for children's cancer charity CLIC Sargent.

The Town Pastors scheme was hailed a success after it was revealed that volunteers from local churches took more than 200 dangerous items from revellers during the first three months in operation.

Richard Dunwoody completed his 1,000-mile walking challenge by passing the finishing post at Newmarket racecourse accompanied by supporters including racing legend Lester Piggott.

The Newmarket Nights pop shows at the racecourse were under way with US girl band Pussycat Dolls among the acts.

Plans to switch police briefing sessions at Mildenhall were criticised as a "down-grading" of Newmarket's police station. Suffolk police chiefs said the move would result in greater efficiency.

AUGUST

Racing industry leaders stepped in to the campaign against the plans for 1,200 homes on the edge of the town and warned that it would lead to the end of the town as racing's historic headquarters.

Former racehorse trainer Pip Payne, 61, was found hanged in woods near his Hamilton Road home.

Tributes were paid to Kenneth Kemp-Turner, Newmarket's first mayor, who died in a Kent nursing home aged 97.

A couple returned from holiday just an hour after a car crashed into their bungalow in Norfolk Avenue, Newmarket.

Vandals burned an artificial cricket surface on The Severals green, Newmarket.

The former Woolworths store reopened as a branch of QD, the discount chain and many former Woolworths staff got new jobs.

SEPTEMBER

Racehorse trainer Sir Mark Prescott was prosecuted for breaching the hunting ban. A private prosecution was brought by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) against him and television chef Clarissa Dickson-Wright. They were convicted, but were given absolute discharges.

Controversial councillor Terry Waters resigned before he was due to face a disciplinary hearing by the Adjudication Panel for England. The Conservative member of Forest Heath District Council was accused of breaching the councillors' code of conduct.

Suffolk County Council agreed a £1 million contribution towards the Home of Horseracing project based on Palace House stables, Newmarket. The scheme is intended to create a major tourist attraction.

Rekha Kumari-Baker, 41, was sentenced to 33 years in jail for murdering her two daughters at her home in Stretham.

OCTOBER

The revamp of the town's Memorial Hall could be getting a £90,000 boost after Forest Heath District Council offered to use "planning gain" cash it held from Tesco. But the deal was subject to the supermarket chain's agreement. The project was previously given the go-ahead to apply for a £500,000 Public Works loan.

Cash-strapped Forest Heath District Council announced it was facing a £4 million budget shortfall over the next five years – mainly as a result of falling interest rates because of the recession.

Parents made a last-ditch bid to save middle schools at a meeting with the Independent Schools Adjudicator.

Muslim leader Ahsan Mohammed made a plea for calm after a spate of racial incidents. He also said that Newmarket's growing Muslim population needed a mosque.

Parrot Houdini was banned from buses after drivers said he would be a distraction when travelling on his owner's shoulder. But Michael Burdette-Deakin, from Newmarket, got around the ban by fitting Houdini with a harness.

The Majestic Wine warehouse plans were approved by councillors after they were changed to a smaller building than originally proposed.

NOVEMBER

It was a month of Royal visitors with the Queen at the Animal Health Trust at Kentford and the Princess Royal officially opening the new Newmarket Leisure Centre and swimming pool.

A coroner described the deaths of estranged couple Keith and Christine McDonald as "one of the most tragic" cases he had to deal with. He recorded that Mrs McDonald was unlawfully killed and Mr McDonald took his own life.

Parking charges were set to rise in Newmarket – four years after they were controversially introduced. Forest Heath District Council was considering proposals to put up the two-hour fee from 30p to 50p and three-hour fee from 60p to £1.

Newmarket College challenged an Ofsted report which branded it "inadequate". School governors and head Dr Bob Cadwalladr complained that the report was based on out-of-date exam results.

John McFarlane, 40, was jailed for life for killing Newmarket fitness instructor Mary Griffiths with a bolt gun normally used on animals.

Town councillors rejected a plea to pay for an additional Police Community Support Officer. Opponents of the move argued that tax payers would by "paying twice" for the police if the council agreed to add £15,000 to tax bills for the officer.

Richard Spring, the town's MP since 1992, announced he would not be standing for re-election.

DECEMBER

Vandals who burned wreaths at the Cheveley war memorial were condemned by ex-service organisations.

Members of Newmarket Conservative Club agreed that their empty building could be leased to the town's Snooker Centre for five years.

There was disappointment when the Schools Adjudicator ruled that middle schools in Newmarket and Mildenhall could close as part of Suffolk County Council's switch to two-tier education.

An "amnesty" was agreed for Christmas when legal action over advertising boards in Newmarket High Street was suspended following complaints from shopkeepers.

A woman jumped from a first floor window to escape a fire in her flat at George Lambton Avenue, Newmarket. A man, believed to be her partner, was rescued by firefighters. Both were taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital.

A £3 million extension to Ditton Lodge Primary School was approved by Cambridgeshire County Council.

September: Palace House stables in Newmarket – Suffolk County Council agreed a £1m contribution towards the Home of Horseracing project. 110741

December: a woman leapt from this window after a fire in a flat in George Lambton Avenue, Newmarket. 617245

November: the Queen paid a visit to the Animal Health Trust at Kentford during a month of Royal visits. 606458

October: Houdini the parrot wearing his new harness after being banned from buses – he is pictured with owner Michael Burdette-Deakin. 605860

WEEKLY NEWS THE GUIDE

- Your New Year TV viewing at a glance – Pages 15-16
- What's showing on the big screen – Page 16
- Crossword and puzzles – Page 17

Dick and co create a magical panto vibe

JENNIFER SHELTON gets into the seasonal spirit of the Arts panto

AS far as I'm concerned, this time of year needs a healthy dose of panto fun.

Luckily, Cambridge has one of the best pantomime teams I know and this year's Dick Whittington presents another sure-fire hit.

Armed with just a hanky on a stick, Dick arrives in London amid the worst recession since 1492.

Here he finds that, though the streets aren't paved with gold, they are filled with friendly faces and pretty girls – including Alice, the beautiful trainee plumber.

But the course of true love never did run smooth – especially when you throw in men in lipstick and the odd power-hungry rat – and Dick must prove his virtue before winning the hand of his fair – yet practical-minded – maiden.

Like all good pantos, Dick Whittington is filled with laughs on all levels. And thanks to the winning comedy formula of Brad Fitt and Matt Crosby I was just as tickled by the falling over and water-in-the-face gags as I was by the shameless double-entendres.

Starring roles: in the cast of Dick Whittington at Cambridge Arts Theatre are Julie Buckfield as Dick and Amy Castledine as Alice.

Picture: Warren Gunn 616407

The night's audience seemed particularly rowdy, picking up on jokes that I suspect weren't necessarily intended.

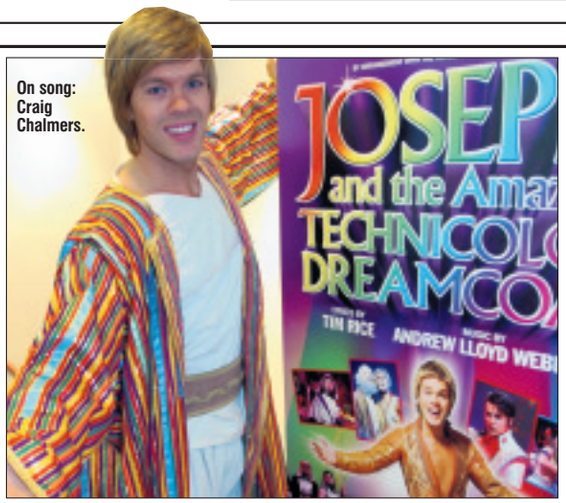
That's one of the great things about panto – the crowd has just as big a role as the cast, giving the entertainment a real organic, unpredictable edge.

Congratulations go to Ruth in the stalls, who handled being picked on at various points throughout the show with good grace, not to mention Alexander – 8 going on 22 – who stole the song-sheet scene with a detailed rendition of his Christmas list that no-one was expecting.

As ever, we were treated to some fabulously outlandish costumes, plenty of song-and-dance numbers and several spectacular sets.

The energy and effort behind this show comes out in each performance, inevitably infecting the audience to create that magical panto vibe.

■ ***Dick Whittington*, Cambridge Arts Theatre, 10.30am/2pm/6pm/7pm until January 17. Tickets from £10. Contact (01223) 503333 or visit *www.cambridgeartstheatre.com***



On song: Craig Chalmers.

Dream of a show is a belter

***JOSEPH and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* was a bit of a revelation for me.**

Sure – I knew the story from the Bible but what the good book missed out, and what the genius of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber added, was glitz, glamour, Elvis and, in this production, inflatable sheep.

The singing was excellent with star Craig Chalmers producing a faultless performance. Tara Bethan as the narrator belted out a strong performance and Stephen Webb was a charismatic Pharaoh (Elvis) – though his jump-suited impression was somewhat dampened by the acoustics of the Corn Exchange which made much of his performance incomprehensible. Sadly – because he sounded brilliant.

If there's one criticism it's that the show has become, by all accounts of those who've seen other versions in the West End, a bit simplified and rests too heavily on the shoulders of the main character. What you don't get is the crucial relationship between Joseph and Benjamin as all the limelight shines on Chalmers. That loss of depth is a regret for adults watching the show. OK – and one other small niggle is Chalmers' tan . . . a tad orange with a hint of autumn shades which doesn't really help in the prison scenes when he's supposed to be stuffed in a dungeon.

But – the whinges are only on reflection as the powerful talent on stage and rip-roaring production certainly got everyone moving and I'd give the whole thing 9 out of 10.

■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Cambridge Corn Exchange, until Sunday, January 3. Times and prices vary. Call (01223) 357 851 or visit *www.cornex.co.uk***

Paul Holland

Leisure or events news? **email paul.kirkley@cambridge-news.co.uk call (01223) 434448**

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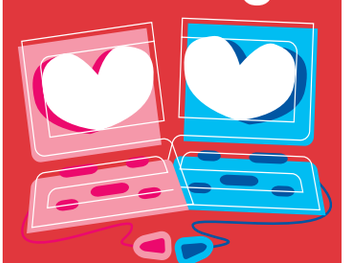

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THE GUIDE | WEEKEND TV

NEW YEAR'S DAY

BBC1

6.00 **Breakfast.**
9.00 **Bear Behaving Badly.**
9.20 **What's New Scooby-Doo?**
9.45 **FILM: The Sword in the Stone (1963).** Disney animated adventure.
11.05 **FILM: Muppet Treasure Island (1996).** Musical puppet comedy, with Tim Curry.
12.35 **The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message.**
12.40 **BBC News;** Weather.
12.50 **Regional News;** Weather.
12.55 **Doctor Who.**
1.55 **FILM: Shark Tale (2004).** Animated adventure.
3.15 **FILM: Superman Returns (2006).** Comic-book adventure.
5.40 **BBC News;** Weather.
6.00 **Look East;** Weather.
6.10 **EastEnders.**
6.40 **Doctor Who.**
7.55 **EastEnders.** Zainab refuses to believe a word of what Christian says.
8.30 **Celebrity Mastermind.**
9.00 **Gavin & Stacey.** With preparations for the wedding in full swing, Stacey has news for Gavin.
9.30 **QI.**
10.00 **Live at the Apollo.**
10.30 **BBC News;** Weather.
10.45 **The National Lottery EuroMillions Draw.**
10.55 **FILM: Sweet Home Alabama (2002)** Comedy.
12.40 **BBC News.**

BBC2

6.00 **Me Too!**
6.20 **Big Cook Little Cook.**
6.40 **Brum.**
6.55 **Pingu.**
7.00 **Arthur.**
7.25 **Inside Life.**
7.55 **Gimme a Break.**
8.25 **Wainwright Walks.**
8.55 **Great Railway Journeys.**
9.45 **Animal Park.**
10.15 **Who Do You Think You Are?**
11.15 **New Year's Day Concert.**
12.40 **FILM: Big Jake (1971).** Western, starring John Wayne.
2.25 **FILM: The Guns of Navarone (1961).** WWII adventure.
4.55 **The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message.**
5.00 **Funny Women: Mollie Sugden.**
5.30 **Funny Turns: John Inman.**
6.00 **Are You Being Served?**
6.30 **The Story of Are You Being Served?** Examining the appeal of the TV sitcom.
7.30 **Are You Being Served?** Colourised pilot episode of the vintage comedy.
8.00 **Three Men Go to Ireland.** Part two of two. The companions head toward Limerick.
9.00 **FILM: The Good Shepherd (2006).** A CIA worker faces a terrible choice between national security and the safety of his family. Spy drama.
11.40 **I'm Alan Partridge.** Alan meets his biggest fan.
12.10 **I'm Alan Partridge.**

ITV

6.00 **GMTV.**
9.25 **Dickinson's Real Deal.**
10.25 **FILM: Carry On Screaming (1966).** British spoof horror.
12.15 **ITV News and Weather.**
12.30 **FILM: Some Like It Hot (1959).** Two musicians don drag and join an all-girl band to evade their gangster pursuers. Romantic comedy.
2.50 **The Railway Children.**
4.50 **FILM: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971).** An eccentric confectionery king takes a group of youngsters on a tour of his empire. Musical adventure, starring Gene Wilder and Jack Albertson.
6.40 **ITV News and Weather.**
7.00 **Emmerdale.** Ryan jumps at the chance to go to Home Farm with Katie, but only because he cannot stop thinking about Maisie.
7.30 **Coronation Street.** Steve and Becky wonder if their marriage was a mistake.
8.00 **Countrywise.**
8.30 **Coronation Street.** Unable to agree with Steve about babies, Becky announces she is going to sleep on the sofa.
9.00 **Agatha Christie's Marple.**
11.00 **ITV News and Weather.**
11.15 **Piers Morgan's Review of the Year.** The presenter and journalist looks back at the events and news that dominated 2009.
12.45 **FILM: Connie and Carla (2004)** Comedy.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 **Sali Mali.**
6.10 **Planet Cook.**
6.30 **Yo Gabba Gabba.**
6.55 **Everybody Loves Raymond.**
7.20 **FILM: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004).** Children's animated comedy.
8.50 **T4: Friends.**
9.20 **T4: Friends.**
9.55 **T4: 90210.**
10.50 **T4: Mariah Carey Special: Under the Skin.**
11.55 **A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.**
12.55 **Jamie at Home.**
1.30 **Channel 4 Racing.**
4.00 **Deal or No Deal: New Year Special.**
5.00 **Come Dine with Me.**
6.00 **The Simpsons.**
6.30 **Hollyoaks.**
7.00 **Channel 4 News.**
7.05 **FILM: The Italian Job (1969).** Crime comedy.
9.05 **The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2009.** Jimmy Carr is joined by Russell Brand, Claudia Winkleman, Charlie Brooker, Jonathan Ross, David Mitchell and Rob Brydon for the quiz show looking back on events of the past year.
11.10 **Gordon Ramsay's F Word.** Greek restaurant Retsina and Moroccan establishment Doukan prepare sardines, prawn and mussel tagine, a mixed grill and a spiced apple cake in the final heat.
12.35 **Rude Tube.**

five

6.00 **Elmo's World.**
6.15 **Pocoyo.**
6.25 **Thomas & Friends.**
6.35 **Hana's Helpline.**
6.45 **Peppa Pig.**
6.50 **Fireman Sam.**
7.00 **The Beeps.**
7.15 **Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures.**
7.20 **Roary the Racing Car.**
7.30 **Noddy in Toyland.**
7.40 **Fifi and the Flowertots.**
7.55 **Peppa Pig.**
8.05 **Peppa Pig.**
8.10 **Thomas & Friends.**
8.25 **The WotWots.**
8.40 **Adventures of Bottle Top Bill.**
9.00 **Little Princess.**
9.15 **The Milkshake! Show.**
9.45 **The Mr Men Show.**
10.00 **Olivia.**
10.15 **Animal Rescue Squad.**
10.45 **Ice Road Truckers.**
11.45 **Crusoe.**
12.45 **FILM: The Muppets' Wizard of Oz (2005).**
2.40 **The Wonderful Wizard of Oz: The Making of a Movie Classic.**
3.50 **FILM: The Wizard of Oz (1939).**
5.50 **Five News Update.**
6.00 **Knight Rider.**
7.00 **Cowboy Builders.**
8.00 **The Lion Cub from Harrods.**
9.00 **CSI: Grissom's Greatest.** Three episodes of the popular crime drama.
12.00 **SuperCasino.**

Elvis By The Presleys
BBC2, Saturday, 8pm

Agatha Christie's Poirot
ITV, Sunday, 8pm

Celebrity Big Brother
Channel Four, Sunday, 9pm

CSI: NY
five, Saturday, 9pm

SATURDAY

BBC1

6.00 **Breakfast.**
10.00 **Saturday Kitchen.**
11.35 **Rachel Allen: Home Cooking.**
12.00 **BBC News;** Regional News; Weather.
12.15 **Football Focus.**
1.00 **Inside Sport: Kieren Fallon: The Road to Redemption.** Clare Balding interviews the three-time Derby-winner.
1.30 **Live Darts: BDO World Championships.** The opening day of the organisation's blue-ribbon event at the Lakeside Country Club in Frimley Green.
4.30 **Final Score.** Round-up of football results.
5.10 **BBC News;** Regional News; Weather.
5.30 **Hole in the Wall.** With Graham Cole, Gemma Merna, Kristian Digby and Alison Hammond.
6.00 **So You Think You Can Dance.**
7.15 **Total Wipeout – Celebrity Special.**
8.15 **The National Lottery: In It to Win It.**
9.05 **Casualty.** Feature-length episode. Adam and Jessica's wedding is interrupted by a summons to the hospital to treat the victims of a major road accident.
10.55 **BBC News;** Weather.
11.15 **FILM: Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy (2004).** Seventies-set comedy, starring Will Ferrell.
12.55 **Sign Zone: The Hairy Bikers' Twelve Days of Christmas.**

BBC2

6.00 **Me Too!**
6.20 **Big Cook Little Cook.**
6.40 **Brum.**
6.55 **Pingu.**
7.00 **Dennis and Gnasher.**
7.30 **Shaun the Sheep.**
7.40 **What's New Scooby-Doo?**
8.00 **Blast Lab.**
8.30 **Skate Nation.**
9.30 **Prank Patrol.**
10.00 **Ed and Oucho.**
10.30 **Keep Your Enemies Close.**
11.00 **The Slammer.**
11.30 **Animals at Work.**
12.00 **Greek.** Casey tries to distract attention from Cappie's new relationship.
12.45 **BBC Switch: The Season.**
1.15 **BBC Switch: The 5:19 Show.**
1.35 **BBC Switch: The Cut.**
2.00 **FILM: Spirited Away (2002).** Animated fantasy.
4.00 **Escape to the Country.**
5.00 **Coast.** The shoreline of Wales.
6.00 **Live Darts: BDO World Championships.**
7.30 **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring's men pose as traitors.
8.00 **Elvis By the Presleys.**
9.30 **Elvis: Black Leather – The '68 Comeback Special.** Highlights of Elvis Presley's 1968 TV performance.
10.20 **QI XL.**
11.05 **FILM: The Assassination of Richard Nixon (2004).** Fact-based thriller.
12.35 **Darts: BDO World Championships.**

ITV

6.00 **GMTV.**
9.25 **The Planet's Funniest Animals.** Troublesome pets and crazy wild animals.
9.55 **Coronation Street.** Omnibus.
12.15 **News and Weather.**
12.20 **FILM: Batteries Not Included (1987).** Sci-fi fantasy, starring Jessica Tandy.
2.15 **FILM: Innerspace (1987).** Sci-fi comedy, starring Dennis Quaid.
4.30 **News and Weather.**
5.00 **Live FA Cup Football.** Reading v Liverpool (Kick-off 5.15pm).
7.15 **Take Me Out.** New series. Comedian Paddy McGuinness plays matchmaker to 30 women all looking for love.
8.15 **All Star Mr & Mrs.** New series. This Morning host Holly Willoughby and husband Dan, tennis legend Boris Becker and wife Sharlely, and TV presenter Judith Chalmers and husband Neil take part in the show.
9.20 **Piers Morgan On.** The journalist and TV presenter visits Las Vegas, where he chats to socialite and actress Paris Hilton and goes gambling with action superstar Sylvester Stallone.
10.15 **ITV News and Weather.**
10.30 **FA Cup Football Highlights.** Matt Smith presents action from the third-round ties.
12.00 **FILM: Buffalo Bill and the Indians (1976)** Western biopic, starring Paul Newman.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 **The Treacle People.**
6.15 **The Hoobs.**
7.05 **Freesports on 4.**
8.00 **The Morning Line.**
8.55 **T4: Friends.**
9.25 **T4: Friends.**
10.00 **T4: Mariah Carey Special: Under the Skin.**
11.00 **T4: Ugly Betty.**
11.55 **T4: Rihanna Live.**
1.00 **T4: Scrubs.**
1.30 **T4: Scrubs.**
2.00 **Channel 4 Racing from Sandown Park and Ayr.**
4.00 **Come Dine with Me.** Five instalments of the culinary competition.
6.30 **Channel 4 News.**
7.00 **FILM: Night at the Museum (2006).** A newly appointed nightwatchman at New York's Museum of Natural History discovers that his job entails more than he had bargained for. Comedy adventure, starring Ben Stiller, Dick Van Dyke and Ricky Gervais.
9.05 **FILM: Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee (2007).** Three stories are woven together to explore the effects on the American Indian culture of the United States' westward expansion in the late 19th century. Epic drama.
11.40 **FILM: The Cider House Rules (1999).** Drama, starring Tobey Maguire and an Oscar-winning Michael Caine.
2.00 **Home Road Movies.**

five

6.00 **Sunrise.**
7.00 **Milkshake!: Angels of Jarm.**
7.05 **Fireman Sam.**
7.20 **Rupert Bear.**
7.30 **Milkshake Monkey.**
7.35 **Hana's Helpline.**
7.45 **Make Way for Noddy.**
7.55 **Sailor Sid.**
8.00 **Roobarb and Custard Too.**
8.10 **Adventures of Bottle Top Bill.**
8.25 **The Mr Men Show.**
8.45 **Harry and His Bucket.**
9.00 **Olivia.**
9.15 **Little Princess.**
9.35 **Gerald McBoing Boing.**
10.00 **NFL UK.**
11.00 **Ice Road Truckers.**
12.00 **Crusoe.**
12.55 **Zoo Days.**
1.25 **FILM: Mrs Lambert Remembers Love (1991).** Family drama.
3.25 **FILM: Only You (1994).** Romantic comedy.
5.30 **Five News.**
5.40 **FILM: The Mirror Has Two Faces (1996).** Romantic comedy, with Barbra Streisand.
8.00 **NCIS.** The team is called to a national forest where several women have gone missing.
9.00 **CSI: NY.** Hawkes and Danny investigate the death of an heiress.
10.00 **CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.**
10.55 **Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.**
12.00 **SuperCasino.**

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SUNDAY

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast.

9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.

10.00 The Big Questions.

11.00 Country Tracks.

12.00 BBC News.

12.05 Cash in the Attic. Helping a hoarder raise funds to smarten up his guest house.

1.05 EastEnders. Omnibus.

3.40 Doctor Who. David Tennant's final appearance as the Doctor.

4.55 Songs of Praise. Aled Jones meets people who are preparing to face new challenges in 2010.

5.30 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.00 Life. David Attenborough narrates this documentary exploring extreme behaviour in the natural world, uncovering some of the strategies animals have developed to stay alive and to breed.

7.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker and Julia Bradbury reflect on their favourite encounters with British countryside creatures.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team set sail for the Channel Islands.

9.00 Wallander.

10.30 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.55 FILM: Under the Tuscan Sun (2003). A writer takes a trip to Tuscany to get over her divorce and a bad case of writer's block.

12.40 The Sky at Night.

BBC2

6.00 Me Too!

6.20 Big Cook Little Cook.

6.40 Brum.

6.55 Pingu.

7.00 Arthur.

7.15 Dennis and Gnasher.

7.40 The Basil Brush Show.

8.05 Jinx.

8.30 Dani's House.

9.00 The Story of Tracy Beaker.

9.30 MI High.

10.00 Something for the Weekend.

11.30 Escape to the Country.

12.15 Animal Park.

1.00 Live Darts: BDO World Championships. Day two at the Lakeside Country Club.

4.45 Ski Sunday. World Cup highlights.

5.30 Live Darts: BDO World Championships.

7.00 This World: Closing Guantanamo. Michael Portillo examines the infamous American detention camp.

8.00 Top Gear.

9.00 Elvis in Vegas. Using archive footage, this documentary explores the story of how Elvis Presley transformed Las Vegas but how the same city helped to destroy him.

10.00 Elvis: Aloha from Hawaii. This 1973 concert features Elvis Presley singing 25 of his greatest hits.

11.05 Three Men Go to Ireland.

12.05 Darts: BDO World Championships.

ITV

6.00 GMTV.

9.25 FA Cup Football Highlights. Action from the third-round ties.

10.55 FILM: Beethoven's 5th (2003). Family comedy, starring Daveigh Chase.

12.40 News and Weather.

12.44 Anglia Weather.

12.45 Live FA Cup Football. Manchester United v Leeds United (Kick-off 1.00pm).

3.15 Athletes Do the Funniest Things. Video clips of unusual games and sports.

3.45 Anglia News and Weather.

4.00 Live FA Cup Football. West Ham United v Arsenal (Kick-off 4.15pm).

6.30 ITV News and Weather.

6.45 Harry Hill's the Best of TV Burp. Another chance to see Harry's take on cult series including Snog, Marry, Avoid? and Natural Born Sellers.

7.15 All Star Family Fortunes.

8.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot. The detective's friend Sir Charles Cartwright hosts a cocktail party where an amiable local reverend chokes to death on his drink.

10.00 ITV News and Weather.

10.15 Cops with Cameras. An insight into the war on drugs across the nation.

11.15 FA Cup Football Highlights. Action from today's third-round matches.

12.15 Premiership Rugby Union.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs.

7.05 Beach Volleyball.

8.00 Sailing. The iShares Cup.

8.30 Freesports on 4.

8.55 T4: The Hills. Lauren and Heidi still cannot work through their differences.

9.25 T4: Friends.

9.55 T4: Hollyoaks. Omnibus.

12.25 T4: Your Top 20 Celebrity Big Brother Moments. Highlights from the celebrity version of the reality show.

1.30 T4: Friends. Chandler and Monica visit a fertility clinic.

2.10 FILM: T4: Jungle 2 Jungle (1997). Comedy.

4.00 T4: The Simpsons. With the guest voice of Tracey Ullman.

4.30 T4: The Simpsons.

5.00 Deal or No Deal.

5.50 The Simpsons. Marge rediscovers her flair for art.

6.15 The Simpsons.

6.45 Channel 4 News.

7.15 FILM: The Simpsons Movie (2007). Homer unwittingly pollutes Lake Springfield, so the government decides to isolate the city underneath a giant dome.

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother: The Launch. Davina McCall launches the final series of the celebrity reality show.

10.20 Rude Tube 2010. The 100 most popular internet videos of all time.

12.25 Celebrity Big Brother: Live.

five

6.00 Sunrise.

7.00 Angels of Jarm.

7.05 Fireman Sam.

7.20 Rupert Bear.

7.30 Hana's Helpline.

7.40 The WotWots.

7.50 Make Way for Noddy.

8.00 Adventures of Bottle Top Bill.

8.15 The Beeps.

8.25 The Mr Men Show.

8.40 Harry and His Bucket.

8.55 Olivia.

9.10 Little Princess.

9.25 Chiro.

9.35 Gerald McBoing Boing.

10.00 Shake!: Snobs.

10.35 Wizards of Waverly Place.

11.10 Hannah Montana.

11.45 The Tribe.

12.10 Zoo Days.

12.35 FILM: Execution of Justice (1999). Fact-based drama.

2.40 FILM: Viva Las Vegas (1964). Musical, with Elvis Presley.

4.20 FILM: Stuart Little 3: Call of the Wild (2005). Children's animated adventure.

5.50 Five News.

6.00 FILM: Cahill, US Marshal (1973). Western.

8.00 Nature Shock.

9.00 FILM: Deep Blue Sea (1999). A scientist researching Alzheimer's disease devises a way to help develop her theories. Thriller.

11.05 CCTV Cities.

12.05 Ultimate Fighting Championship.

Cinema Listings

CAMBRIDGE CINEWORLD
0871 200 2000
Times from Friday, January 1, until Thursday, January 7.
Daybreakers (15): Wed & Thu 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm.
Did You Hear About The Morgans? (PG): Daily 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm; Daily except Tue, Wed & Thu 11.15am.
Nine (12A): Daily 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm.
Sherlock Holmes (12A): Daily 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm; Daily except Tue, Wed & Thu 11.40am.
Alvin And The Chipmunks 2 - The Squeakquel (U): Daily noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 11.20am, 1.40pm.
Avatar 3D (12A): Daily noon, 1pm, 3.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 8.20pm, 8.50pm.
Avatar (12A): Daily except Wed & Thu 4pm, 7.40pm; Mon & Tue 12.20pm.
St Trinian's 2 - The Legend Of Fritton's Gold (PG): Daily 1.55pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm; Fri, Sun & Mon 11.30am.
Where The Wild Things Are (PG): Daily except Tue, Wed & Thu 10.40am.
Planet 51 (U): Daily except Tue, Wed & Thu 11.10am.
Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs (U): Sat 10am.
G-Force (PG): Sat 10am.
Aliens In The Attic (PG): Sat 10am.

ELY THE MALTINGS
(01353) 616991
Times from Friday, January 1, until Thursday, January 7.
Fantastic Mr Fox (PG): Wed 3pm.
The men who stare at Goats (15): Wed 7.30pm.
Bright Star (PG): Thu 7.30pm.

BURY ST EDMUNDS CINEWORLD
0871 200 2000
Times from Friday, January 1, until Thursday, January 7.
Daybreakers (15): Wed & Thu 2pm, 4.35pm, 7pm, 9.25pm.
Did You Hear About The Morgans? (PG): Daily 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm.
Nine (12A): Daily 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 12.20pm.
Sherlock Holmes (12A): Daily 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 11.30am.
Alvin And The Chipmunks 2 - The Squeakquel (U): Daily 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.50pm.
Avatar 3D (12A): Daily 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 8pm.
Avatar (12A): Daily 8.45pm; Daily except Wed & Thu 3.30pm, 7.15pm.
St Trinian's 2 - The Legend Of Fritton's Gold (PG): Daily 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm; Daily except Mon 1.30pm.
Where The Wild Things Are (PG): Fri, Sat & Sun 10.20am.
Planet 51 (U): Sat & Sun 11am.
Nativity! (U): Fri, Sat & Sun 10.45am.
The Boat That Rocked (15): Mon 1.30pm.
Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs (U): Sat 10am.
G-Force (PG): Sat 10am.
Aliens In The Attic (PG): Sat 10am.

YOUR GUIDE TO MOVING HOME

1 **Moving home can be a complicated business and, in the hectic run to the big day, it is all too easy to forget something vital. The Property News offers their readers this handy checklist that should help avoid major pitfalls. We suggest you tick off the items as you deal with them...**

WITH FOUR WEEKS TO GO:

- ☐ Get estimates from removal companies, checking that comprehensive insurance cover is available against damage or loss. Is there a packing and unpacking service? Confirm the date of your move with the firm you have chosen.
- ☐ Check on your home contents insurance policies to ensure that you are covered for the move, and covered at your new address.
- ☐ Make arrangements for your gas and electricity meters (plus water meters where relevant) to be read and all your appliances to be disconnected on the day of your move.
- ☐ Arrange to take over gas and electricity at your new address, and make sure that all appliances will be properly fitted, plumbed or connected.
- ☐ Notify British Telecom and ask them to make the necessary arrangements for a final account at your present address, and for taking over or installing telephone facilities at your new home.
- ☐ Arrange for change of address cards to be printed.

WITH TWO WEEKS TO GO:

- ☐ Confirm all arrangements, times etc, for meter readings, disconnections and reconnections, with authorities and with your buyer and seller.
- ☐ Make sure you have a good stock of packing materials, including sturdy boxes and plenty of string and sticky tape.
- ☐ Begin to throw out unwanted items from attics, wardrobes. What you really don't want you may as well dump now, or send to charity. It's a great time for a good sort out!

WITH ONE WEEK TO GO:

- ☐ Send off change of address cards.
- ☐ Arrange and pay for automatic redirection of your mail by the Post Office.
- ☐ Cancel and pay up accounts for routine delivery services such as milk, groceries, fuel and your Cambridge Evening News. Re-organise these deliveries for your new address.
- ☐ Defrost refrigerators in preparation for move and, if you are moving a freezer and its contents, turn it up to maximum for a couple of days before you move.

WITH ONE DAY TO GO:

- ☐ Complete your packing except for those items you are likely to need overnight, and prepare a picnic for moving day.
- ☐ Have a large enough cash 'float' available to deal with unexpected expenses, and make sure you have collected documents and valuables together in a safe place.
- ☐ Cover carpets which are being left behind, so as to minimise damage during furniture removal.
- ☐ Check through previous lists to make sure nothing has been overlooked, then enjoy a worry-free early night!

2 ON MOVING DAY:

- ☐ Strip beds and pack bedding and nightclothes.
- ☐ Pack items for washing/toiletries.
- ☐ Take down curtains.
- ☐ Take up rugs, carpets, floor coverings, as required.
- ☐ Dismantle any light fittings etc., not included in the sale.
- ☐ Turn off electric appliances.
- ☐ Disconnect cooker.
- ☐ Turn off boiler/central heating.
- ☐ Turn off water.
- ☐ Read gas meter.
- ☐ Read electricity meter.
- ☐ Secure all windows.
- ☐ Lock all doors.
- ☐ Leave key as arranged with new owners.
- ☐ On arrival at your new home, unpack slowly and methodically so that you can check for loss or damage.

3 EXTRA HINTS FOR A SMOOTH MOVE...

WHO TO NOTIFY:

- ☐ Banks.
- ☐ Building Societies.
- ☐ Credit companies.
- ☐ Insurance companies.
- ☐ Gas, Electricity and Water Boards.
- ☐ Telephone company.
- ☐ Local Authority (Rating Department).
- ☐ Driving Licence authorities.
- ☐ Inland Revenue.
- ☐ Store cards and accounts.
- ☐ Other lease, hire or rental companies.
- ☐ Employer.
- ☐ Doctor.
- ☐ Dentist.
- ☐ Schools.
- ☐ Professional Bodies/Trade Unions.
- ☐ Motoring organisations.
- ☐ Newsagent.
- ☐ Friends and relatives.

FIUK1

Grow beautiful flowers with minimum of fuss

You can bag a potted bargain now if you look in the shops – and if you want something that can last for years with the minimum of fuss, it's worth choosing an orchid.

by Hannah Stephenson

Many people are put off by the cost, but I've seen large, exotic-looking moth orchids (Phalaenopsis) in shades of pink and cream reduced from £9.99 to under a fiver in my local Marks & Spencer, and I'm informed that many branches across the country have the same offer while stocks last.

Perhaps orchids are not traditionally the plant associated with the festive season, but their long, arching stems bearing sprays of beautifully marked, delicate-looking flowers look great in both modern and traditional settings.

Moth orchids are widely grown and well-suited to life indoors, requiring a minimum temperature of 16C. I bought one in Ikea and kept it on an airy kitchen windowsill, where it flowered for four months until it finally needed a rest in November.

These plants don't have a yearly cycle of producing flowers, and can develop flower spikes at any time. Cool nights are important, so allow a dip of a few degrees.

Once they've finished blooming, cut the flowered stems back to just above a joint, two up from the base, using a pair of sharp secateurs. It should draw up another spike within a few weeks, although mine didn't show any signs of life for several months until a new branch appeared, producing a string of beautiful blooms.

Their rambling roots spread across the surface of the pot and out, searching for nutrients. The roots contain chlorophyll and therefore produce energy from light, so grow the plants in clear pots – it's also a good way to see if the roots are wet or dry.

Trends are changing as people start to shy away from the big, showy flowers to the more dainty, subtle and smaller-flowered types.

Slipper orchids (Paphiopedilums), trendy in Victorian times with their waxy leaves and lip-shaped pouch at the front of the flower, are again becoming popular. The flowers are usually long-lasting and can remain in bloom for months.

Some people have veered away from orchids in the past, fearing they may need a lot of maintenance. But these elegant plants, which originate from South-East Asia, are actually tough old birds which don't like too much fuss.

It's generally overwatering that kills them, and they are becoming easier to grow as nurseries bring out new varieties. Most hybrids come from hot, humid forests and like a warm, tropical climate.

It's a myth that they must be shaded, because they do well on windowsills and flower more freely if given some sun. However, it's best to keep them out of direct sunshine in the summer – and don't make the mistake of moving them from somewhere very shaded into direct sunlight, or they will suffer leaf scorch.

Some orchid-lovers mist the plants regularly, but they really don't need to.

Orchids should just be watered once a week by immersing the pot into a bowl of tepid water until it's moist all through. Then lift the pot out and sit it on a draining board for a few minutes before putting it back into its permanent pot.

The plant should be allowed to dry out between watering.

Use a half-strength liquid feed for orchids. Add it each time you water the plant, which you need to do more frequently in summer.

Moth orchids should be repotted about once a year – you can buy specific compost for orchids from garden centres. It's expensive, but worth it as it has the right mix of nutrients.

Simply stunning: orchids can develop flower spikes at any time of the year. CP.

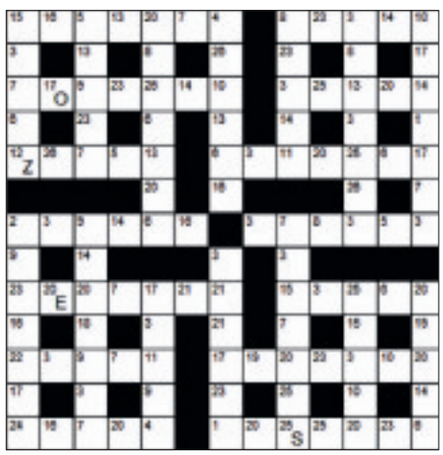
FOUR Ws

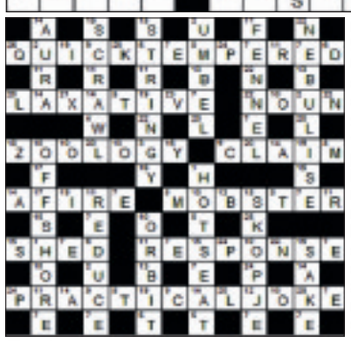
1. WHO...wrote the song *Look At Your Game, Girl* which features on the album The Spaghetti Incident by Guns N' Roses?
WHAT...is the common name of the bird Turdus merula?
WHERE...in England is the village of Indian Queens?
WHEN...was N.F. Simpson's stage play *One Way Pendulum* first produced?

2. WHO...wrote the graphic novel *Ghost World*?
WHAT...was the original surname of Adolf Hitler's father?
WHERE...in the US is Indian Wells, host city of the Pacific Life Open tennis tournament?
WHEN...did the ventriloquist Shari Lewis die?

3. WHO...is the lead singer with the band The Flaming Lips?
WHAT...Arkansas-born actor claims to have a phobia of antique furniture?
WHERE...in Africa is the lake Chott Melrhir?
WHEN...did the Nobel Prize-winning writer Henri Bergson die?

Answers: 1. Charles Manson; Blackbird; Cornwall; 1959. **2.** Daniel Clowes; Schicklgruber; California; 1998. **3.** Wayne Coyne; Billy Bob Thornton; Algeria; 1941.





Codeword 5: Can you crack the code and solve the word puzzle? Each number relates to a letter and every letter of the alphabet is used at least once.

■ Last week's solution.

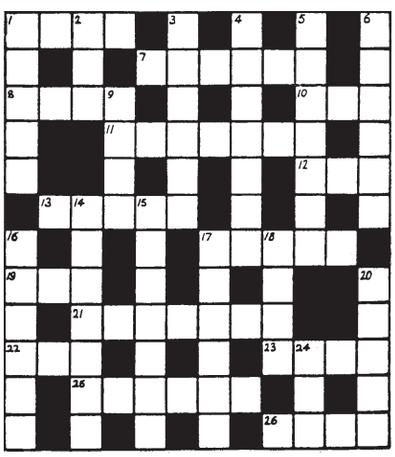
			2	8	1			
	1					7		3
4	5			3		8	9	
6	3	9	5					4
		1	9		8	3		
5					3	2	7	9
	4	8		5			1	2
7		3	1				5	
			8	6	9	4		

Sudoku 81: Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once.

2	3	5	1	7	6	9	8	4
8	7	6	3	4	9	2	5	1
4	9	1	8	2	5	3	6	7
1	8	7	6	3	4	5	2	9
9	6	2	7	5	8	4	1	3
5	4	3	2	9	1	8	7	6
7	2	8	9	6	3	1	4	5
6	5	9	4	1	2	7	3	8
3	1	4	5	8	7	6	9	2

■ Last week's solution.

Crossword 2146



Across

1. Caught with pictures in wagon. (4)
7. Stinging insect appeared when throne collapsed. (6)
8. I follow man in skirt. (4)
10. Amphibian found when head abandoned port. (3)
11. Most illustrious head presented in case. (7)
12. Took chair on short day of week. (3)
13. The Tundra is not beautiful. (5)
17. Knowing to take tin to US city. (5)
19. Prevent one telling joke. (3)
21. Put on paper order to descend. (3,4)
22. Drink in some appropriate arcade. (3)
23. Each way leads to one direction. (4)
25. Selling about the last one. (6)
26. Round dance. (4)

Down

1. Arrived and left with ugly brute. (5)
2. Right? Once was king. (3)
3. Robert needs rubbish container for weaving part. (6)
4. Girl comes to up to insect with feeler? (7)
5. Leave it as it is, boy, by the hat. (7)
6. When rubbish consumed, go round. (6)
9. Peruvian at home with accountant. (4)
14. Convict brings haul back, the idle fellow. (7)
15. In one minute I approach Gallery for copy. (7)
16. A gun? Cry of triumph from a Christie. (6)
17. Composer is cut, being trendy. (6)
18. A single from the North? Not any? (4)
20. Favourite gives a learner part of flower. (5)
24. Governor given silver article. (3)

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Solution to 2145 – Across: 1. Pretty; 4. Abhor; 8. Relating; 10. Pal; 11. Stopover; 13. Scam; 15. Elan; 16. Sputniks; 19. Ice; 20. Traction; 22. Stage; 23. Method. **Down:** 1. Props; 2. Earl's Court; 3. Talisman; 5. Bin; 6. Resort; 7. Otto; 9. Give an inch; 12. Prestige; 14. Issues; 17. Itch; 18. Herod; 21. Rag.

drive

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Say Hy to the new year!

Hyundai's special treats

WHAT better way to see in the new year than with a new range of high value, well-equipped special editions?

Set to arrive at retailers in January, new special edition variants of Hyundai's best-selling i10, i20 and i30 ranges offer new stylish looks, great driving characteristics and excellent levels of comfort and safety.

What's more, the flagship of the Edition range – the i30 – gets an exclusive new sporty look. A modified front grille, hexagonal air intake and sculpted fog lamps, plus side skirts and a new rear bumper incorporating twin exhaust trims are features found only on this model.

i30 Edition 1.4: £13,400.

Priced from £13,400 on-the-road (with VAT at the higher 17.5 per cent rate), the i30 Edition is more than £4,000 cheaper than an entry-level Ford Focus, yet the list of standard equipment is comprehensive. As well as the exterior enhancements, standard kit includes stylish 16-inch alloy wheels, privacy glass, sports pedals, a chrome-finished gearknob, electric windows all round, remote central locking, electric heated door mirrors and a six-speaker stereo-radio CD player with Aux and USB connections and steering wheel audio controls. Like all models in the i30 range, it also includes life-saving ESP as standard, along with active front head restraints and six airbags.

Engine choices are 1.4 or 1.6-litre petrol, or Hyundai's acclaimed 1.6-litre CRDi diesel, which offers sub-119g/km emissions. A stop-start system is available as a £200 option on all models, dropping emissions lower and saving even more fuel.

The i20 Edition, available with Hyundai's advanced 1.2-litre petrol engine, is offered as both a three and five-door and also benefits from incredible levels of standard equipment.

Priced from £10,565 on-the-road, over £700 cheaper than an entry-level Ford Fiesta, the i20 Edition benefits from plush half-leather seat trim, air conditioning, coloured interior detailing, electric windows, leather steering wheel and gear knob, steering wheel audio controls, a CD-radio with Aux and USB connections and remote central locking – luxuries normally found in much more expensive models.

Exterior enhancements include front fog lights and 15-inch alloy wheels, plus two optional exterior colours exclusive to Edition models – Crystal White and Ice Blue.

Benefiting from a five-star Euro-NCAP crash test rating, the i20 Edition looks after its occupants with standard ESP, active front seat head restraints and six airbags.

The i10 Edition, priced at £8,425 on-the-road, arrives with a level of standard equipment that puts many bigger cars to shame. As well as smart 14-inch alloy wheels, body-coloured door mirrors, body side mouldings and front fog lights, the i10 Edition also has remote central locking, colourful interior detailing, air conditioning, electric windows, a height-adjustable drivers' seat and a leather steering wheel and gearknob. Powered by a 1.1-litre petrol engine, the i10 has emissions of just 119g/km, meaning a tax disc will cost just £35 per year.

All of the Edition models also benefit from Hyundai's famed five-year warranty. The full list of prices is as follows:

i10 Edition 1.1 – £8,425
i20 Edition 1.2 3-dr – £10,565
i20 Edition 1.2 5-dr – £11,025
i30 Edition 1.4 – £13,400
i30 Edition 1.6 – £13,900
i30 Edition 1.6 CRDi – £14,700

Ford Focus is awarded 'Used Car of the Decade' honour

THE Ford Focus has been voted "Used Car of the Decade" by CAP – the UK's independent used car pricing experts.

The CAP Used Car of the Decade award recognises a vehicle's contribution to personal transport in Britain. The award was open to any used car range available during the decade (2000-2009).

Mark Norman, chairman of the CAP judging panel, said: "As a used car the Ford Focus has satisfied every criteria for the demanding consumer requiring a true five-seat family car."

He continued: "The Focus has always been a well engineered and durable product that consistently offers a reliable sales opportunity to used car retailers."

Jon Wellsman, sales director, Ford of Britain said: "Ford is extremely proud of the Focus model range and delighted to receive such a prestigious award. The dynamic Focus continues to improve as a model and we hope this latest generation of vehicles will continue to be as successful in the used car market."

There are more than 1,300,000 new and used Focus models on Britain's roads today.

The Ford Focus: The ideal used car purchase.

The Suzuki Swift SZ range: All geared up for the new year.

Suzuki unveils new Swift trims as options expand for new year

SUZUKI is getting all trimmed-up for the new year.

The firm's popular Swift model will be available in three new trims from January, with SZ2, SZ3 and SZ4 replacing the GL and GLX models. Engine choices will also be restricted to 1.3-litre petrol and 1.3-litre diesel, with the present 1.5-litre petrol unit to be sold with automatic transmission only.

The 1.6-litre petrol Swift Sport remains the only model unaffected in the range. These changes should ensure the Swift's continuing popularity – 54,000 have been sold since it went on sale in the UK in 2005, which is explained by both the quality of the product and the attractive price points.

i-MiEV sets electric standard

THE Mitsubishi i-MiEV this month became the first zero emissions fully electric city car to be used on the government funded Technology Strategy Board user trials.

It has a top speed of 81mph, a range of 100 miles and can be trickle charged from flat to full in seven hours at any UK three-pin socket – costing under £1 for a full charge. In addition the i-MiEV can be fast-charged from flat to 80 per cent in just 30 minutes using the quick charger.

Genichiro Nishina, president and CEO of Mitsubishi Motors Europe, said: "Mitsubishi Motors takes an holistic approach to environmental and sustainability issues at every stage of the vehicle's design, production and in-service lifecycle. The i-MiEV is the most prominent element of our basket of environmental solutions, which makes the prospect of ultra-low carbon transport a present-day reality."

Endorsing the programme as an i-MIEV driver in the trials, Quentin Willson, said: "These first EVs that go on the Technology Strategy Board's trial mark the start of a seismic shift in the sort of cars we drive and how we power them.

"The Mitsubishi i-MiEV is a forerunner of a transport revolution that eventually will change the world. At last here's an electric car that doesn't look like a church pew, seats four, does 80mph and costs less than a quid to charge. What is there not to love?"

This is the first stage of a Government-supported UK-wide project to trial electric and ultra low emission vehicles – and begins in the West Midlands today. The keys to 25 Mitsubishi i-MiEVs (Mitsubishi innovative Electric Vehicle) will be given to independent drivers – including automotive expert Quentin Willson – to test over the next 12 months by the CABLED (Coventry and Birmingham Low Emission Vehicle Demonstrators) consortium in Centenary Square, Birmingham.

The CABLED consortium will manage the project after being confirmed in June as one of eight successful teams in the £25 million Technology Strategy Board Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Demonstrator Competition. The consortium brings together the expertise of 13 West Midlands-based organisations within the engineering, automotive manufacturing, academic, public and infrastructure sectors, and is led by global engineering consultancy Arup.

The project is worth £15 million and will trial 110 vehicles on the roads of Birmingham and Coventry. UK-wide, 340 vehicles are being tested using funding from the Technology Strategy Board. As well as being the largest, CABLED is the first consortium to begin vehicle trials and has recently gained further public backing thanks to £2.5 million funding awarded by Advantage West Midlands (a regional development agency).

Neil Butcher, Arup's project leader of the CABLED consortium said: "By 2020, low carbon cars will be commercially viable, and it's important that we start to understand the public's reaction and provide the necessary infrastructure to prepare for this."

The Mitsubishi i-MiEV: Taking a big step on the road to a low-carbon transport society.

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05 05 118 2.0 Diesel Se 5dr aw ac £9,995
06 06 320 2.0 Diesel SE 4Dr £12,995
05 55 320 2.0 Dlesel Se Est £12,995
04 54 320 2.0 Diesel SE 4Dr £8,695

CHRYSLER
03 03 Grand Cherokee 2.7 crd LTD auto 5dr £7,995

CITROEN
04 53 C3 1.4 Hdi desire 5dr £4,450

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08 08 C-max 1.8 tdci titanium £11,750
05 05 Cmax 2.0 Tdci Ghia £6,495
06 56 fiesta 1.6 tdci zetec S £8,495
07 57 fiesta 1.6 Zetec S Tdci 3Dr £8,450
06 06 fiesta 1.4 tdci ghia 5dr £7,495
06 06 fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate Tdci 3Dr £6,750
06 06 fiesta 1.4 Tdci zetec climate 3dr £5,995
09 58 focus 1.8 Tdci zetec 5dr £12,495
08 58 focus 1.6 tdci Style + Est £11,995
06 56 focus 1.8 Tdci Sport Estate £7,695
05 55 focus 2.0 Tdci Ghia 5Dr £6,995
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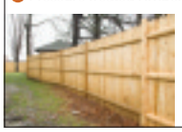

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14 PERSONAL SERVICES

Personal Services

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Information provided on these pages is intended for general information purposes only and does not constitute legal or other professional advice.

Your CV

When you send your CV off to a potential employer, remember that you won't be the only one. Hundreds of other people could be applying for the job as well.

So what are you going to do to make you stand out from the crowd? Why should an employer take a chance on you instead of someone else?

Your CV is your first real chance to sell yourself to a potential employer. Most employers will scan through a CV in about 30 seconds so you need to grab their attention from the start - and make them want to invite you for an interview.

There are five main areas to consider when writing your CV:

• Make sure your CV looks the part. Your CV should look clean and tidy - don't scrawl it out on a piece of A4 paper. If you haven't got access to a PC or printer, ask a friend or use your local library. Use a good quality paper and steer clear of fancy borders and front covers.

• Watch out for silly spelling and grammar mistakes. They make you look lazy and show employers that you don't really care. It's not difficult to do a spell check on your PC and if you're really stuck then don't just guess, reach for a dictionary. Get a friend to read through your CV for you - a second opinion is always useful.

• Make sure your CV is well organised. When you list your previous jobs, make sure the dates are correct and try not to leave any gaps. If you took time out to go travelling then say so - employers won't mark you down just because you've tried something new.

• Don't waffle. Remember that employers don't have time to read every word of your CV. Long paragraphs and sentences put people off, so try bullet-points to break up text. Make sure your CV is no longer than two pages long - employers don't want your life history, they just want to see that you've got what it takes to do the job.

• Don't list any failures. Employers have enough trouble finding someone who is right for the job - they don't need help finding reasons not to employ you. If you have to include a mistake from your past, make sure you show the employer that you learnt something from the experience.

Keep it simple

Personal details
Start off with your full name, address, date of birth, home and mobile phone numbers, email address and nationality. If you are offered an interview, the employer will want to get hold of you so give him as many options as possible.

Summary/professional profile
This is the No1 area for selling yourself. Set out your main skills and personal qualities but keep it interesting and tight - one paragraph should do to cover everything.

Education and qualifications
List your qualifications and education history, with the most recent first. You don't need to list the grades for each exam you have passed unless they were exceptional results - simply listing the number and type of exams you've passed is fine. Also, list any relevant professional organisations you belong to and training courses you have been on.

Work experience
Start with your most recent position and work backwards, giving addresses along with start and finish dates. Set out your main responsibilities, duties and most importantly achievements, along with any skills you picked up or improvements you made while you were there. This is a really important section in your CV so make it count - but don't waffle.

If you have not had a full-time job before, detail any part-time jobs you may have held or any placement you have been on.

Other skills
Set out any computer skills you may have and the software you are most familiar with. Can you type, do shorthand or speak a foreign language fluently? If you have a driving licence, let the employer know. If it's clean, tell them.

Interests & hobbies
Briefly list what you get up to in your spare time. Put down any positions you hold in clubs or associations, along with any responsibilities and achievements.

References
Make sure you have at least two people (including one from your previous or current job) who will tell an employer what a thoroughly nice person you are and what a potential asset to the company you would be.

If you want to list them now make sure you include their name, job title, postal & e-mail address and contact phone numbers. Alternatively, just put "Available on request" so the employer knows to follow up references at a later date.

Add a covering letter

The main aim of a covering letter is to encourage an employer to give you a chance. You want them to read your CV, so sell it to them. You should always enclose a covering letter when applying for a job - most employers won't consider you unless you do.

A covering letter should let the employer know why you are interested in the job and why you think you can do it.

The hints and tips below should point you in the right direction:

• Keep it simple. A covering letter should be short and to the point - no more than six paragraphs.

• Mention the job. If you are replying to an advert, mention what the job is and where you saw it. The company may be advertising for other positions and it may not be clear which job you are applying for.

• Sell yourself. Explain why you are the perfect candidate for the job. Show off your strengths and experience. Refer to your CV - if it goes missing then at least an employer will know that you've sent it.

• Check it for mistakes. A silly spelling mistake in a covering letter is likely to cost you your chance of getting an interview. Also, make sure it is addressed to the right person in the right department.

A covering letter can be just as important as a CV in getting you an interview. It's your first point of contact with your potential employer - so make it count.

WEEKLY NEWS SPORT

December 31, 2009 email: newmarketsport@cambridge-news.co.uk

Happy New Year to all our readers and contributors

>> FOOTBALL: FESTIVE ROUND-UP FROM THE TOWN GROUND AND RECREATION WAY

Grainger woe after spot-kick

Oh no you don't: Newmarket skipper Andrew Eady eliminates the threat of Haverhill's Lee Salmons in the Jockeys' 1-0 defeat at the Town Ground on Boxing Day.

Picture: Richard Patterson SPO 618689

Dereham Town 3
Newmarket Town 1
RIDGEONS LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION

KEVIN Grainger could only watch in frustration as his Newmarket side's half-time lead turned into a 3-1 defeat at Dereham on Tuesday.

Andy Eady put the visitors in front with a header and Newmarket controlled much of the first half without extending their lead.

Dereham equalised with a free-kick early in the second half and then went in front in controversial circumstances when they were awarded a disputed penalty for a foul by Steve Bell.

The Newmarket defender was shown red and the spot-kick was scored. As the visitors chased an equaliser, Dereham added a third late on.

Boss Grainger will hope his team have better fortune when they make the short trip to Mildenhall on Saturday.

Newmarket Town 0
Haverhill Rovers 1
RIDGEONS LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION

MARC Abbott struck the only goal of a scrappy game after three minutes as Haverhill triumphed at Newmarket on Boxing Day.

The supporters who turned up at the Town Ground were not treated to a classic encounter by any means, and Jockeys' manager Grainger was far from impressed with his team's lacklustre display.

"It was an awful game and we were awful," said Grainger. "It was a repeat of last Boxing Day, when we played Godmanchester and were awful in a 2-1 defeat.

"We couldn't pass to each other and looked lethargic in the second half. Haverhill deserved to win and we've got to put it behind us."

Mildenhall Town 6 Wisbech Town 1
RIDGEONS LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION

THE home supporters were treated to a goal feast as Mildenhall hit Wisbech for six, with Aaron Turner netting a brace on Bank Holiday Monday.

Turner opened the scoring after just two minutes and moments later centre-back Michael Harvey doubled the lead when he headed home from a corner.

'Hall dominated the first half and went 3-0 up on the half hour when skipper Dave Werthmann headed in from another corner.

Turner then completed a fine first-half display when he scored his second on the stroke of half time.

Wisbech did manage to pull a goal back 30 seconds into the second half, but the hosts continued to create chances.

With 20 minutes remaining, Turner lifted the ball over the keeper and as a defender attempted to clear off the line, John Sands bundled in.

And, in the 85th minute, Ryan Foster completed the rout.

■ Newmarket and Mildenhall kick off 2010 with what promises to be a tense local derby against each other at Recreation Way on Saturday (3pm).

Reeves: We're ones to watch

>> Rugby Union

HAVING reached the halfway point of the season with 10 wins out of 10 in Eastern Counties One, it is not just promotion in the sights of Newmarket.

With a continued presence in the Junior Vase, the home of English rugby is also a target in the new year.

But despite the results flowing, skipper Michael Reeves admits that Newmarket have not hit the heights in their displays that they were able to produce last year, when they were third.

"Our performances have been a bit slack compared to last year as we only had one bad game, against Thurston," said Reeves. "This season, we've won games well (in terms of points margins) and we've only played well twice or three times.

"We've got far more potential than we've been playing at. Something is not quite working.

"When it works we beat Fakenham 88-3 and when it doesn't we win 43-7 against Thetford."

But the captain could not put his finger on the problem.

"I know the forwards have been outstanding," he said. "Without doubt the scrum is working well and the line-out is even better than last year.

"I just don't quite know (what's wrong), but on a personal front, I've not had the best season playing-wise, but my boot has been excellent.

"We're winning games and not playing our best rugby. Perhaps it's that last pass, or last thought, or we're losing the ball in contact or kicking when we should not."

Reeves realises that things could get harder in the second half of the campaign.

"We will be the target for everyone," he said. "At the top of the league, you will always be a target for some body. You are what they aim to be, which is top of the table."

First up after the festive break, on Saturday, is a trip to Dartfordians, who have won 11 out of 11 in Shepherd Neame Kent One, in the fourth round of the Junior Vase.

"We do have Twickenham as the target," said Reeves. "We're in a mindset that's where we want to go. It has to be as it's the best opportunity for us to do it and we have the side that could get us there.

"But promotion has to be the main thing and we're in a strong position to do that."

Roddy starts with win

>> Boxing

HARRY Roddy helped the Eastern Counties representative side to a narrow 6-5 victory over the Southern Counties select squad in their clash at Aveley.

New Astley's Roddy made a sensational debut by stopping fellow first-timer G Dannard from Chatham's Brompton ABC in the second round.

Roddy had the weight advantage and made the most of it to stun Dannard with the accuracy of his punching.

Coach Mark O'Reilly said: "Harry is a lovely little boxer and when he gets into range, he does a good job.

"He isn't a strong kid and it was just sustained pressure rather than a big punch that stopped his opponent, but he's definitely one for the future."

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